Montana

1991-1992 Winter Guide

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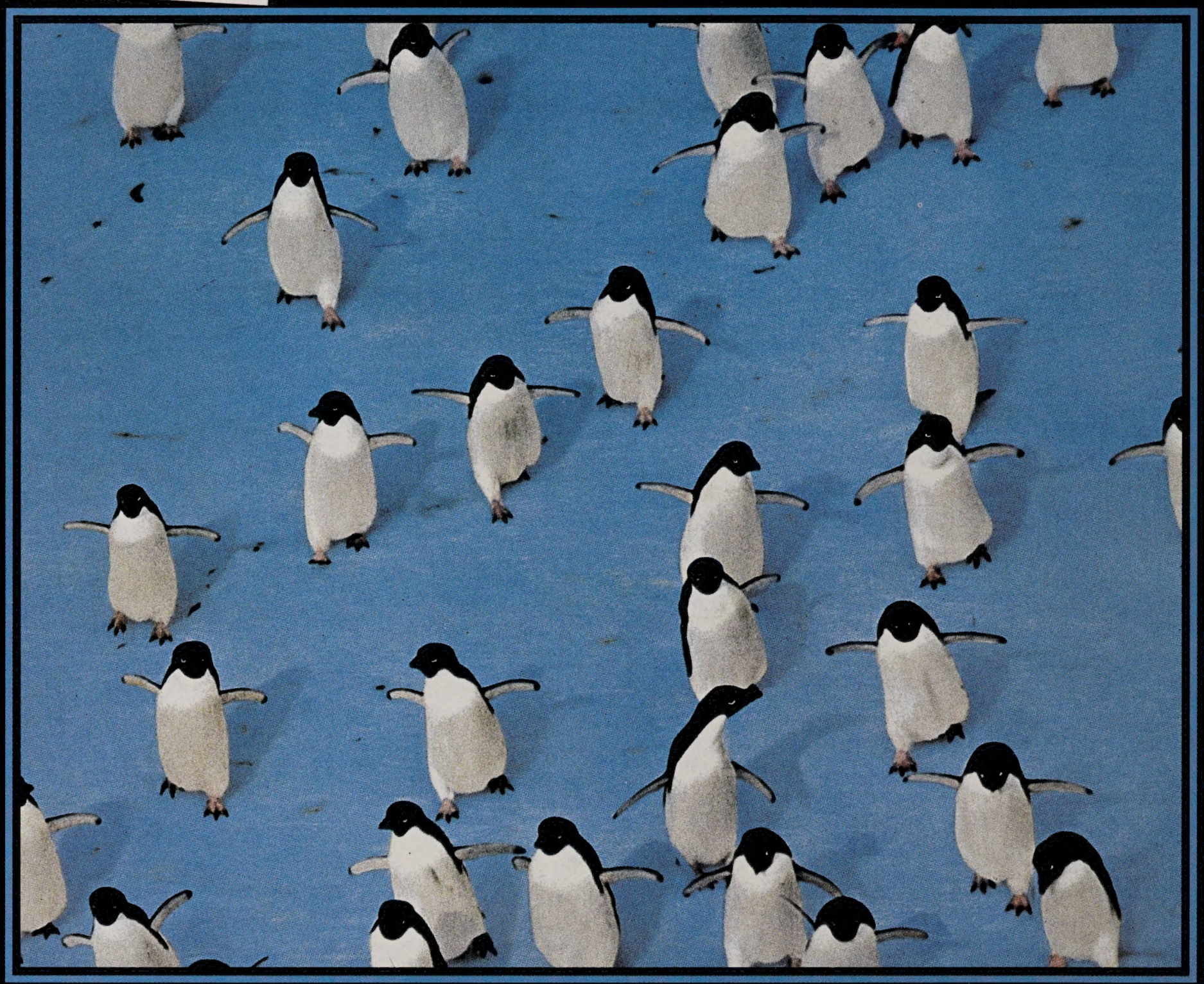
Perfect Ski Vacations For Social Animals.



There's skiing. And then there's après skiing—that time when you finally slip out of your cold boots. And into a hot tub.

Later, join your friends in one of the pubs. Pull your chair close to the fire. Sip something warm. And swap stories about how you went from the bunny hill to a black diamond in one lesson (hence the term: little white lie).

It's a vacation you'll never forget. So much snow. Yet so much warmth. Starting with the welcome you receive on Delta.

We can fly you to the Rockies, the Sierras, Canada and Europe. And offer you a variety of ski vacation packages that will smooth your way to all the most popular resorts.

See your Travel Agent. Or call Delta's Vacation Center at 1-800-872-7786. And join us for what's become a social phenomenon.

DELTA

We Love To Fly And It Shows.®

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Make new tracks in a whole new world.

Montana has the best of winter–plentiful and reliable snow, magnificent mountains, watchable wildlife and a healthy dose of western hospitality. And, of course, some of the best skiing in the world.

When you ski Montana, you learn to ski without. Without lift lines. Without crowds. Without hassles. So all you have left are the good things. Powder perfect snow. Brilliant blue sky. Easy access. Friendly faces. It's downhill skiing made perfect.

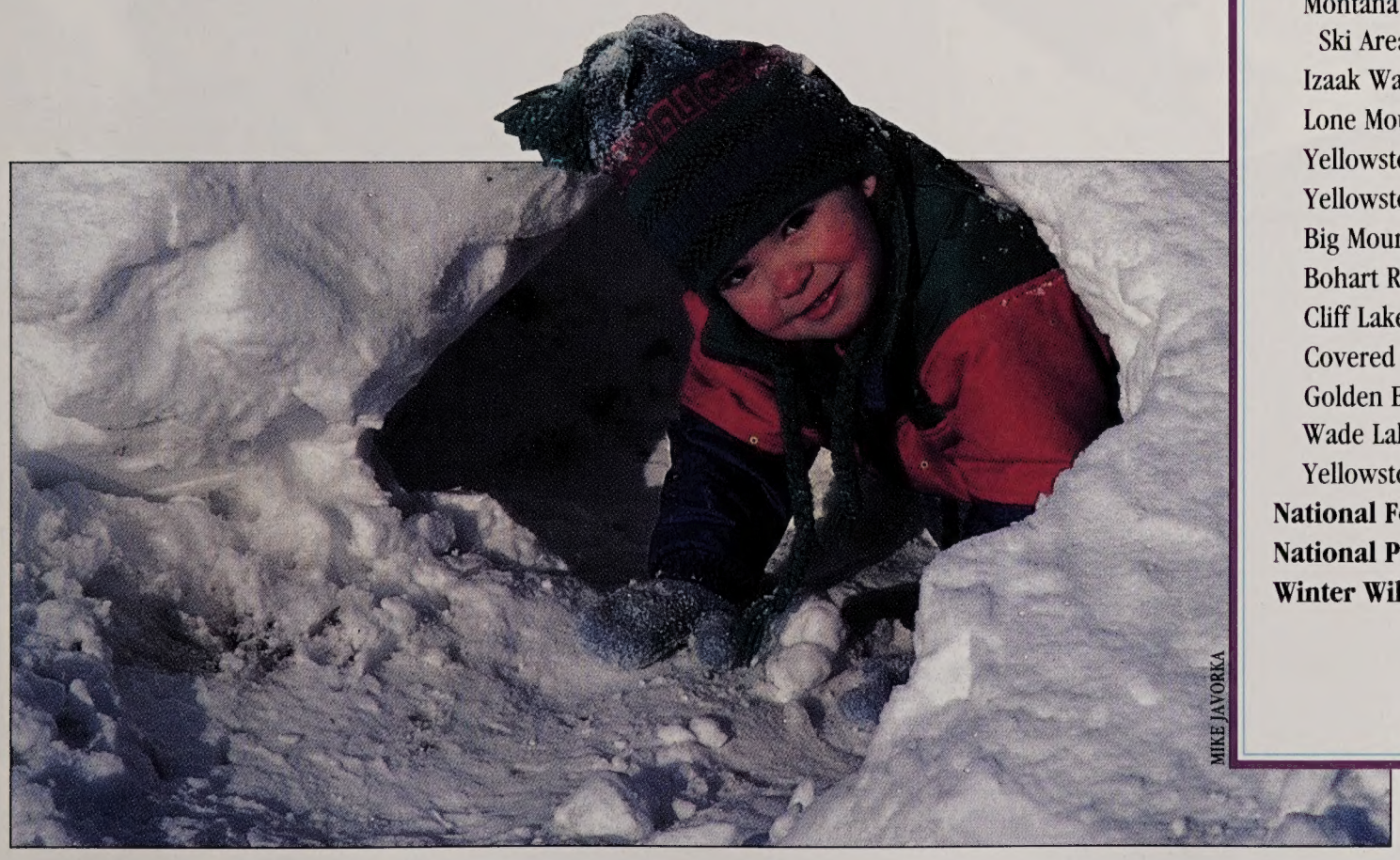
Here you'll find two of the nation's favorite national parks–Glacier and Yellowstone–all dressed up for winter visitors. In Yellowstone, wintering wildlife steal the show as elk and bison graze the geyser basins. Access is easy with guided snow coach tours, ski tours and hundreds of miles of separate snowmobile and ski trails. Cross-country skiers have Glacier almost exclusively to themselves in winter; you'll share the trails with moose and deer, the views with bighorn sheep.

In between Yellowstone and Glacier are 15 downhill skiing areas, plus dozens of areas for cross-country skiing. Many areas are located on national forests, where millions of pristine acres beckon backcountry explorers.

Our resorts are world-class, without out-of-this-world prices. Where else can you find 4 days skiing and 4 nights lodging for as little as $139? Or ski all day and then enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of a cozy inn or bed & breakfast?

In Montana, we celebrate winter with world-class events like national and international speed skating races at the U.S. High Altitude Sports Center in Butte, U.S. Nordic and Biathlon Team competition in West Yellowstone and Race to the Sky in Helena, the longest sled dog race in the lower 48 states. Add ski touring, snowmobiling, snowshoeing and wildlife viewing, and you have winter done right.

Our resorts and ski areas cater to families, so don't forget the kids. Ski schools, ski day camps, and a wide variety of special events will make their ski vacation as memorable as yours!



MIKE JAVORKA

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FRONT COVER PHOTOS: SCENIC, WAYNE MUMFORD; SKIER, GORDON WILTSIE.

Downhill

Spend time perfecting your turns, instead of waiting your turn.

GORDON WILTSIE

Leave the crowds behind and ski Montana. Through dry, perfect powder. Over challenging moguls. Down thrilling chutes. Or, take a calmer route, along a cruising trail or a gentle slope. In Montana, you set your own pace.

Our 15 ski areas range from world-class destination resorts with all the amenities to classic day-use areas that make you feel like family. Our 4 largest resorts offer more skiable terrain than Aspen; regardless of size, they all provide superb skiing.

All of our resorts and day-use areas welcome families, and many provide day care and all-day ski camps. We have expert, friendly ski instructors that turn tiny tots into skillful skiers–and provide a whole lot of fun on the way.

Snowboarders and telemarkers are welcome too. It's uncommon variety. It's Montana.

We spice up the skiing with ongoing celebrations such as torchlight parades, winter and spring carnivals, downhill races, and just-for-fun events like snowboard races, skolf tournaments and snow dances. You can also enjoy barbecues, gourmet sleigh-ride dinners, ice skating, and luxurious soaks in jacuzzis, saunas and heated outdoor pools. And wherever you go, don't be surprised to encounter elk, deer and bighorn sheep. They're just wild about Montana winters.

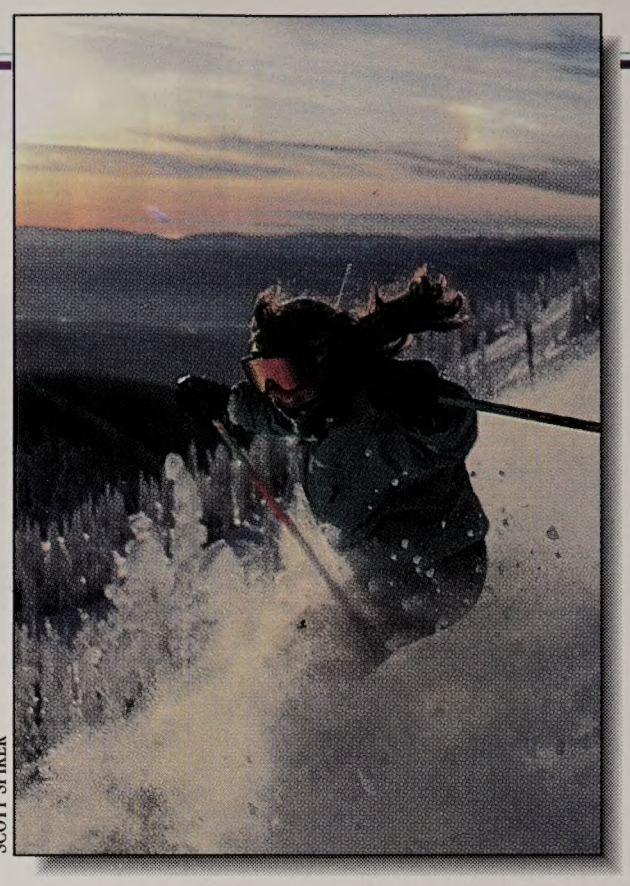
WILL BREWSTER

LONNIE BALL

◀ SKIER: LONNIE BALL

Big Mountain

With more than 3,000 acres of skiable terrain, Big Mountain is among North America's largest resorts. But our warm welcome and family fun are second to none. Looking for deep powder bowls or steep terrain? Enjoy honing your skills on groomed trails? You'll find what you love at Big Mountain. After you've skied a mountain of fun, a village of good times awaits, all well below the cost of other resorts of this class.



SCOTT SPIKER

Facilities: The Big Mountain Alpine Village, with slopeside or ski-to accommodations for up to 1,500 people, has restaurants, casinos, shopping, day care, a ski shop and school and a 15 km Nordic Center. Or shuttle to neighboring Whitefish or Kalispell for more activities.

Location: 35 miles west of Glacier National Park, 8 miles north of Whitefish and 19 miles north of Kalispell. Fly Delta, Horizon Air or United Express/United Airlines with daily service to Kalispell. Amtrak services Whitefish from the east and west. With confirmed reservations, skiers are met at the airport or train depot. Rental cars, taxis available.

Season: Thanksgiving to April 19. Open daily 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Night skiing mid-December through March, Wednesday-Sunday, 4:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Average Annual Snowfall: 300 inches.

5 days skiing/5 nights lodging,
economy lodging starts at

$295

per person, double occupancy.

Deluxe lodging starts at $390/person, double occupancy. Rates do not include state accommodation tax. American Meal Plan Packages available in some lodges. Custom packages available upon request.

Base Elevation: 5,000 feet.

Top Elevation: 7,000 feet.

Vertical Drop: 2,000 feet.

Longest Run: 2.5 miles

Trails & Slopes: 50 marked runs and unlimited tree skiing on 3,000 acres in the Flathead National Forest. 25% beginner, 55% intermediate, 20% advanced. Snowboarders, telemark and mono skiers welcome.

Lifts: 1 new Doppelmayr high-speed detachable quad chairlift with gondolas for evening use; 4 triple chairs; 1 double chair; 1 T-bar; 1 platter lift.

Lift Capacity: 11,684 skiers per hour.

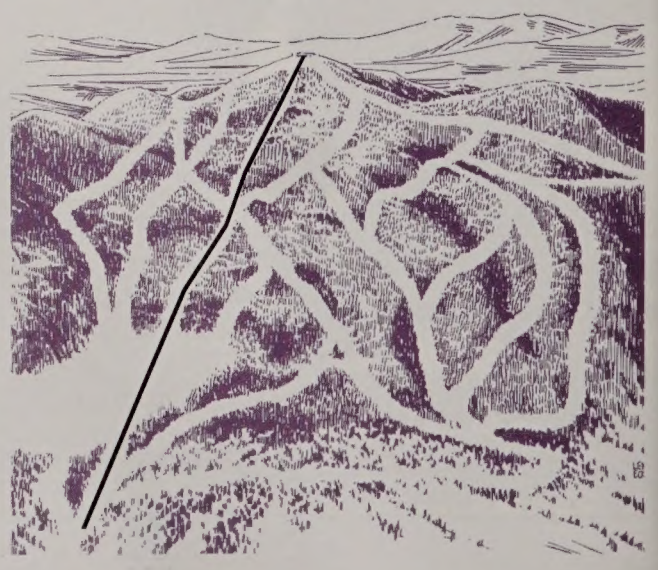
Lift Rates: Adult, $29; junior (13-18), $22; seniors, $22; child (7-12), $15. Adult night, $9; juniors & seniors night, $7; child night, $6. Children 6 and under FREE. Platter lift FREE at all times. Multi-day and special group ticket rates.

Ski Instruction: 2-hour group lesson, $18; 1-hour private lesson, $45; adult first timers lesson and lift, Hassle-Free-Learn-to-Ski, half-day, $18. Skill builder packages; Kids Ski School; snowboard, telemark and cross-country lessons. Weekly specialty clinics include bumps, powder, short turns and racing.

Rentals: Adult (skis, boots, poles), $14/day; children under 6 and seniors, half price. Nordic equipment, $14. Snowboards, $22. Packages available.

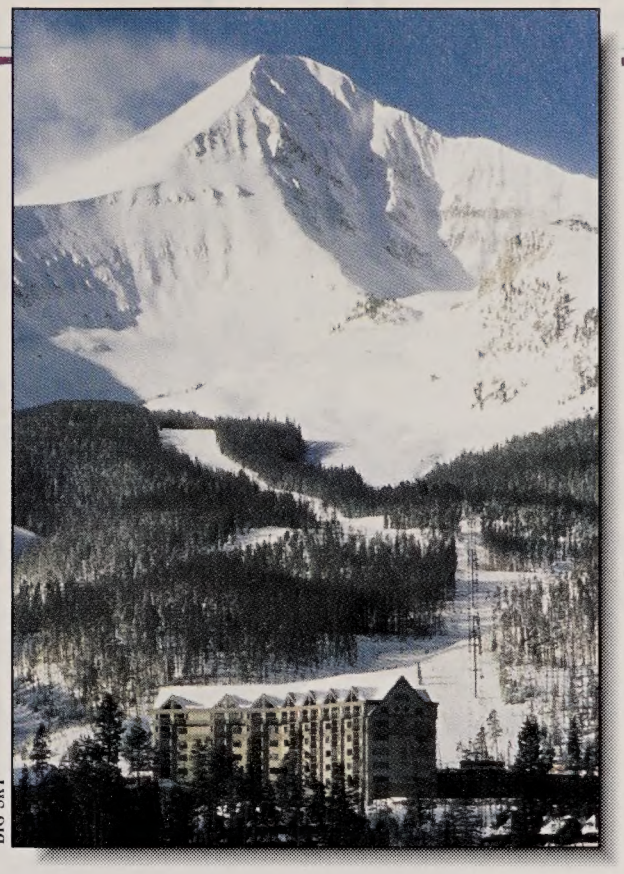
Events: Doug Smith Western Region Downhill Series, Whitefish Winter Carnival, Outrageous Air Show, USSA Bump Bash Competition, Advanced Skiing Seminar, Winterfest, Molson Golden Ski Challenge, Doug Betters Winter Classic, Beach Party Weekend, Snow Leopard Mountain Bike Slalom Race, Ski Sailing Slalom and Giant Slalom, Cat skiing.

For More Information:
Write Big Mountain,
P.O. Box 1400,
Whitefish, MT 59937, or call
(406) 862-3511 in Montana,
1-800-858-5439 in U.S.



Big Sky Ski and Summer Resort

Big Sky. The very name echoes the nickname of the state of Montana. When you see the majestic peaks, rushing rivers and fine amenities at Big Sky Ski and Summer Resort, you can be confident that you're enjoying the best a single location has to offer. From the bighorn sheep at the entrance to the friendly local folks, the Big Sky experience is truly a memorable one. Get some tips from the Austrian and American ski instructors. Let the kids enjoy the fun day care. Big Sky's slopeside lodging, variety of entertainment, fine dining and new conference center make it the ideal mountain resort.



BIG SKY

Facilities: Big Sky is Montana's most complete destination resort with more than 1,000 rooms and condominium units. Big Sky consists of Mountain Village and Meadow Village located 6 miles apart. Regular shuttles between both villages and the ski area eliminate the hassle of driving and parking. Daily shuttles to Yellowstone National Park. Nordic skiing is available at nearby Lone Mountain Ranch. Aprés-ski includes shopping, gourmet sleigh-ride dinners, ski movies, dancing, lighthearted poker games (poker is legal in Montana!) or relaxing in the outdoor heated pools, jacuzzis and saunas. Choose from 15 restaurants and 11 night spots in the area.

Location: In the Gallatin Canyon, 43 miles south of Bozeman on U.S. Highway 191 and just 18 miles north of Yellowstone National Park. Continental, Delta, Horizon Air and Northwest provide daily jet service to Bozeman's Gallatin Field Airport. Regularly scheduled shuttles meet most major flights. Rental cars and taxis are also available.

Season: Mid-November to mid-April. Open daily 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Night skiing December 26-March 31.

Average Annual Snowfall: 400 inches.

Base Elevation: 6,970 feet.

Top Elevation: 10,000 feet.

Vertical Drop: 3,030 feet.

Longest Run: 3 miles.

Trails & Slopes: Two mountains with 55 trails on more than 1,500 acres. 20% beginner, 50% intermediate, 30% expert. Big Sky has snowmaking capability to ensure quality conditions early and late in the season.

Lifts: New high-speed detachable quad chairlift; 2 high-speed detachable 4-passenger enclosed gondolas; 3 double chairs; 2 triple chairs, including the new Southern Comfort servicing 5 new runs and 2 surface tows.

Lift Capacity: 11,100 skiers per hour.

Lift Rates: Adult, $34; children 12 and under, $17; seniors 70 and older, $17.

Ski Instruction: Lessons are available for all levels of skiers at Big Sky's International Ski School. 2-hour group lessons, adult or child, $20. Children's Ski Day Camp combines 4 activities, healthy meals and improving skills, $30/day. Beginner ski packages for first-time skiers, including rental equipment, lesson and rope tow tickets, $30, adult or child.

Rentals: $19 per day. High-performance equipment is also available at any of Big Sky's 3 ski shops. Discounts available for 3 or more consecutive day rentals at Boyne Country Ski Rental & Repair. Snowboarding and telemark equipment and lessons are available.

Events: Medical seminars and ski club groups throughout winter; Winter Carnival, January 11-12; Dirt Bag Ball, late February.

Monday-Tuesday: 2 nights, 2 days skiing, double occupancy. First-class lodging at Huntley Lodge starts at

$111

per person.

Restrictions apply. Please inquire about these and other packages, as well as condominiums.

For More Information:
Write Big Sky Ski and Summer Resort,
P.O. Box 1,
Big Sky, MT 59716
or call
1-800-548-4486 outside Montana, 1-800-824-7767 in Montana or (406) 995-4211 local & Canada for reservations.

Bridger Bowl

GORDON WILTSIE

Come home to Bridger!
Ski in the radiant warmth of our bright, western sun through snow as light as goose down feathers. This is Montana's legendary land of powder known as "The Cold Smoke." Breathtaking alpine slopes and bowls, vistas of 5 majestic mountain ranges and the greatest variety of ski terrain in Montana. Unforgettable fun in the snow and sun for the whole family. Discover what keeps everyone coming home to Bridger Bowl.

Facilities: At the area there is a new base lodge with cafeteria, full-service bar, day care center and ski school, 2 rental shops, sandwich shop and beer stube and a mid-mountain chalet with food service, beer and wine.

Location: Only 16 scenic miles NE of Bozeman, a small sporting town with big city amenities. Fly into Bozeman on Continental, Delta or Northwest airlines. Car rental or weekend shuttle bus service available.

Season: Mid-December to mid-April. Open daily 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Average Annual Snowfall: Approx. 400 inches.

Base Elevation: 6,100 feet.

Top Elevation: 8,100 feet.

Vertical Drop: 2,000 feet.

Longest Run: 2.5 miles.

Trails & Slopes: Premier "mogul-cutter" grooming program in Montana provides intermediate and advanced skiers with "buffed-out" runs through fields of moguls. Bridger Bowl offers over 50 runs with expansive bowls, powder glades, winding trails and groomed slopes on 2,000 acres in the Gallatin National Forest. Nearly one-third of Bridger's 800 acres of lift-accessible skiing terrain is groomed.

Lifts: 5 double chairs; 1 pony lift.

Lift Capacity: 5,100 skiers per hour.

Lift Rates: Adults, $22; children, $10; seniors, $14.

Ski Instruction: Alpine, telemark and snowboarding, group lessons, $18 (approx. 2 hours); private lessons, $30/hour. PSIA certified instructors.

Adaptive Ski Program: Eagle ski is an adaptive ski instruction program for people with special needs.

Rentals: 2 sales and rental shops on the mountain. Complete packages start at $12/day; other equipment and rentals available in Bozeman.

Snowboarding: Welcomed. Rental equipment, lessons and half pipe available.

Events: Torchlight Parade, December 29; Bridger Bowl's Birthday, January 10; National Handicapped Sports–Regional Qualifying Ski Race, February 1-2; Powder 8's Competition, February 9; Molson's Ski Challenge, February 23; Ski for the Green–Eagle Ski Fund Raiser, March 15; Wild West Shred O'Fest–Snowboard Competition March 14-15; Ski Caribe Weekend, March 28-29; Bump-Off Competition–Freestyle Event, March 28-29; Pinhead Classic–Telemark Race in Costume, March 29; Double Pole, Pad & Pedal–Alpine, Nordic, Run & Cycle Event, April 5.

3 nights/3 days All Season Special

$100

quad occupancy, includes lodging and lift tickets.

$130

double occupancy, includes lodging and lift tickets.

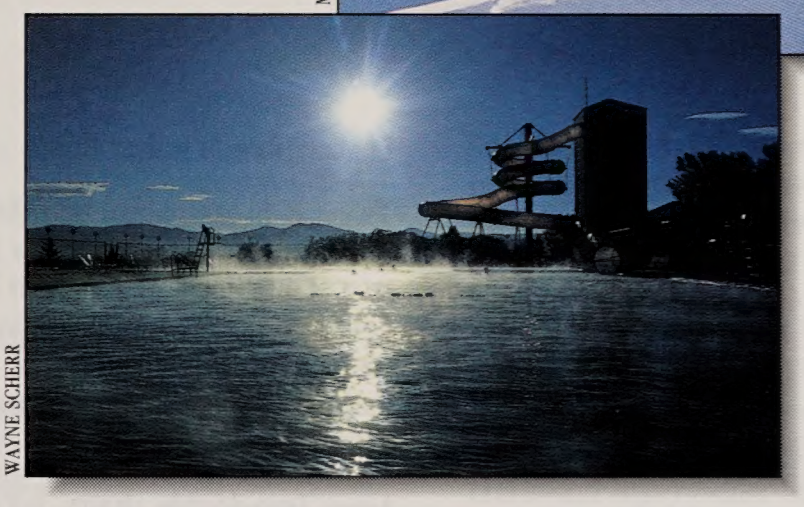
Several packages available with a variety of motels, condos, private homes, bed and breakfast inns from which to choose.

For More Information: Write Bridger Bowl Ski Area, 15795 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715. For reservations call 1-800-223-9609 in the U.S. and Canada, or (406) 587-2111.

Discovery Basin
Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Nestled near the Anaconda/Pintler Wilderness Area of southwestern Montana, you'll find Discovery Basin ski area and a "funtastic" resort known for its recreational bounty and unique, western hospitality. Make your ski weekend vacation more than just memorable. After a day on the slopes at Discovery Basin, recover in the soaking pools or swim in the 2 Olympic-size pools filled from Fairmont's naturally hot, spring water. You can continue the skiing thrills with a ride on Fairmont's 350-foot enclosed water slide.

MARY BALL


WAYNE SCHERR

Facilities: Fairmont features a coffee shop, dining room, casino and lounge with dancing and live entertainment. On the slopes at Discovery, you'll find a day lodge with food and beverage service, ski shop, rental shop and ski school.

Location: Discovery Basin is 32 miles west of Fairmont, 20 miles west of Anaconda, 45 miles west of Butte on Montana Highway 1 off Interstate 90. Fly to Butte on Delta or Horizon Air. Rental cars, taxi and airport shuttle available to/from Fairmont upon request.

Season: Thanksgiving through Easter, open daily 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Average Annual Snowfall: 200 inches.

Base Elevation: 6,850 feet.

Top Elevation: 8,150 feet.

Vertical Drop: 1,300 feet.

Longest Run: 2 miles.

Trails & Slopes: 30 runs (360 acres of skiing) in the Deerlodge National Forest. 33% novice, 33% intermediate, 33% expert.

Lifts: 3 double chairlifts; 2 pony lifts.

Lift Capacity: 3,400 skiers per hour.

Lift Rates: All-day adult, $18; all-day children (under 12)/ seniors, $9; half-day (begins at 12:30 p.m.), $13.50. Inquire about special group rates. All major credit cards accepted.

Ski Instruction: All-day, $20; half-day, $12; private, $25/hour.

Rentals: Alpine, nordic and snowboard rentals available in all sizes. Ski rentals, $11/day; snowboards, $20/day.

Sales: Top-quality equipment available in Discovery Basin's ski shop.

Ski Touring: 5K groomed trails, miles of ungroomed touring trails. Rentals/lessons available.

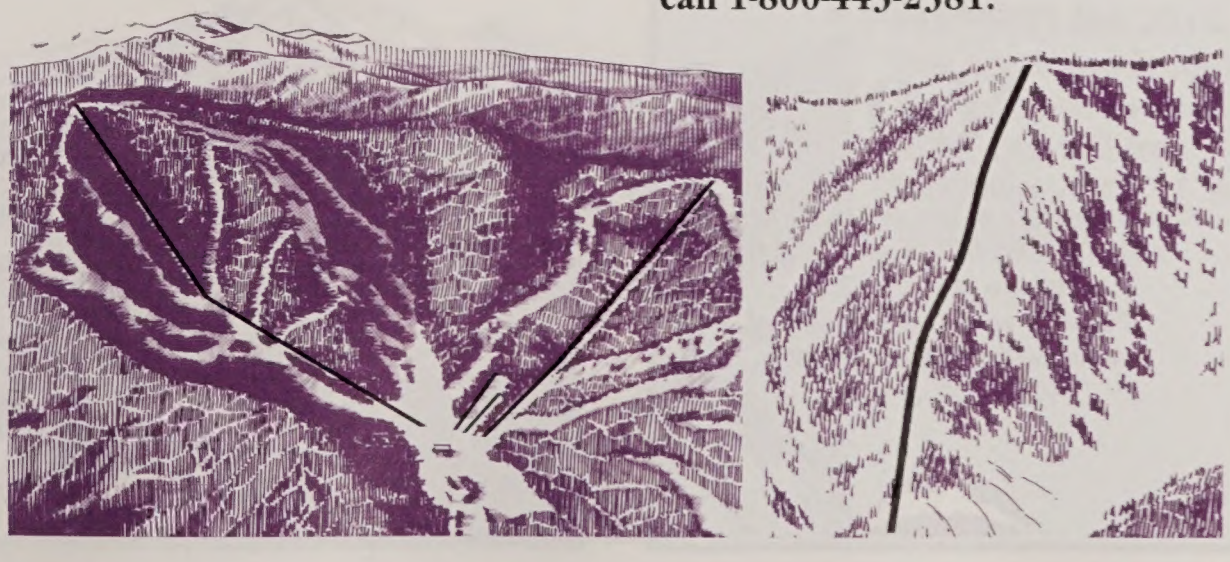
Events: Winternational; John Mollish Memorial Ski Race for Boys and Girls; annual races sponsored by Pepsi and Brown Derby.

For Ski Information: Discovery Basin Ski Corporation, P.O. Box 221, Anaconda, MT 59711, phone (406) 563-2184.

For Lodging and Package Information: Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, 1500 Fairmont Rd., Anaconda, MT 59711. In Montana call 1-800-332-3272, out-of-state call 1-800-443-2381.

$158

2 nights/double occupancy
(includes 4 lift tickets
and 4 water slide passes)
1-800-332-3272 in Montana
or nationwide 1-800-443-2381



Montana Snowbowl

The heart and soul of the bowl challenge. Deep, powdery, natural bowls have been Snowbowl's trademark throughout the years. Although many miles of cruising runs are groomed nightly to provide all skill levels with a wide variety of skiing, Snowbowl still has some of the most exciting and challenging ski slopes in North America. Battle the Grizzly or play in the powder of Angel Face and the East Bowls or shred the Chicken Chute. With 2,600 feet of skiable vertical drop, there is an altitude adjustment at every turn. With the Bowl's uncrowded slopes, the 850 acres of skiable terrain are yours to fully enjoy.

SCOTT SPIKER

Facilities: The Last Run Inn Saloon, base lodge with a full-service cafeteria, nursery, rental shop, the Grizzly Chalet at mid-mountain and the Cherry House on top.

Location: 12 miles northwest of Missoula, home of the University of Montana. Take the Reserve Street exit off I-90, then north on Grant Creek Road, then left onto Snowbowl Road. Missoula features 2,000 rooms and 150 lounges and restaurants, with enough excitement to keep you going for days. Northwest, Delta, Continental, Horizon Air and United Express serve Missoula's International Airport.

Season: Late November to mid-April. Open Wednesday-Monday.

Average Annual Snowfall: 300 inches.

Base Elevation: 5,000 feet.

Top Elevation: 7,600 feet.

Vertical Drop: 2,600 feet.

Longest Run: 3 miles.

Trails & Slopes: More than 30 trails and groomed runs, open powder bowls and tree skiing, located on 1,100 acres in the Lolo National Forest, adjoining the Rattlesnake Wilderness Area. 20% beginner and novice, 40% intermediate, 40% advanced and expert.

Lifts: Two double chairs, 1 T-bar, 1 beginner tow.

Lift Capacity: 2,600 skiers per hour.

Lift Rates: Adult, $20; child, $9.75; senior, student and half-day rates available. Children 5 and under and beginner tow are free.

Ski Instruction: PSIA certified instructors. 2-hour adult group lesson, $14; 1-hour adult private lesson, $25; GSF (Guaranteed Skiing Fun) package for beginners, includes lift, lesson and rental, $21.50; Pee-Wee private lessons, $12; day care-ski school for children 3-6 years, includes equipment, lesson, lift ticket and lunch, $22.50.

Rentals: Complete alpine package, $12/day. Snowboards, $18/day. Separate rates available. Ski accessories for sale.

Snowboarding: Snowbowl has ideal terrain for snowboard skiing including a "half pipe." Snowboarders are welcome. Rentals and lessons are available at the area.

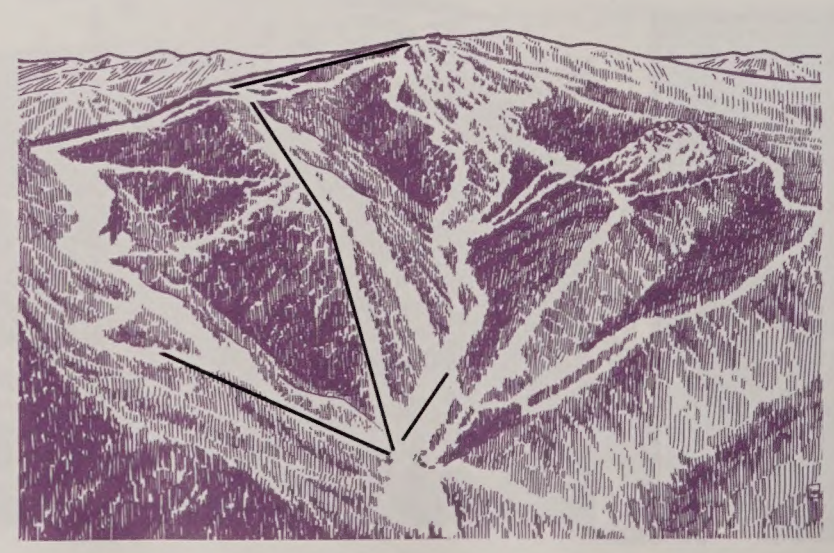
Ski Touring: Telemark skiers welcome. Several maintained cross-country trails available near Missoula.

Events: Pepsi Sport Racing every Saturday; Northern Divison Freestyle Series, January 4-5; Snowboard Jam, February 8-9; National Gelande Jump Championship, February 29-March 1; Northern Division Freestyle Championship, March 7-8; Para-Ski Event, March 7-8; Snowbowl Triathlon, March 15; Best of the Bowl Race, March 22; Ski-Golf Tournament, March 29.

2 days skiing, 2 nights lodging, double occupancy starts at

$60

per person.
Group packages as low as $26.50/person/night for stays of 2 or more nights in groups of 6 or more.
Packages with a wide variety of accommodations are available.
Please call or write.



For More Information: Write Montana Snowbowl, P.O. Box 8226, Missoula, MT 59807, (406) 549-9777.

Red Lodge Mountain

Skiing Red Lodge will be a memorable family vacation. There's terrain to suit everyone—from the wide-open, gentle terrain of "Miami Beach" to 2.5-mile cruiser "Lazy M" and the challenging chutes of "Drainage." Famous for great spring skiing, Red Lodge averages over 250 inches of snow during the season, yet 5 of every 7 days are sunny. Kids love our SKI WEE program and Central Reservations make arranging your trip a breeze. While you're here, shop the unique stores that line the Victorian Main Street, relax during a horse-drawn sleigh ride or cross-country ski by moonlight. Set your own pace at Red Lodge Mountain.

GORDON WILTSIE

Facilities: The mountain offers a ski rental and repair shop, a ski accessory and gift shop, 7 days-a-week ski school, SKI WEE program, 2 cafeterias, 1 saloon/restaurant, 1 beer and wine restaurant, Central Reservations and friendly people.

Location: 1-hour drive, via I-90 then U.S. Hwy 212, from Billings with no mountain passes. Billings Logan International Airport is served by 50 flights daily on Northwest, United, Delta, Continental and Northwest Airlink. Nonstop jet service daily to and from Minneapolis/St. Paul. Rental cars available at the airport. Free shuttle to ski area.

Season: Early December to April 12. Open daily 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Average Annual Snowfall: 250 inches.

Base Elevation: 7,400 feet.

Top Elevation: 9,416 feet.

Vertical Drop: 2,016 feet.

Longest Run: Lazy M is 2.5 miles.

Trails & Slopes: Over 30 slopes, trails and open meadows covering 25 miles on 500 acres in Montana's Custer National Forest. 15% novice, 60% intermediate, 25% expert. Snowmaking assures good conditions in early season.

Lifts: 4 double chairs, 1 triple chair, 1 mitey-mite.

Lift Capacity: 6,690 skiers per hour.

Lift Rates: Adult, $22; children 12 and under, $10; seniors, $15. Group rates. All major credit cards accepted. Beginning January 6, Mondays and Tuesdays are discount days: $14 lift tickets, $10 lessons, $10 rentals (excludes holidays).

Ski Instruction: 50 PSIA certified ski instructors. 1-hour group lessons, $14; private lessons, $25/hour; snowboard lessons, $25. First-timers package: $15 for anyone 7 years or older, includes lift ticket, rental and a 1-hour lesson. Inquire about other learners' packages. SKI WEE program for 3- to 6-year-olds includes equipment, lift privileges, lessons, snacks, crafts and supervision. All day, $30; half-day, $25.

Rentals: Adult, $13; children 12 and under, $9. Demo/performance skis, $25/day. Discounts for 2 or more consecutive days. Telemark and snowboard skiers welcome. Equipment in the area.

Events: Learn to Ski Free Day, January 17; Winter Karnival Krazee, March 7; 3 Jump Jackpot, April 11-12; Beach Party Weekend, April 13-14.

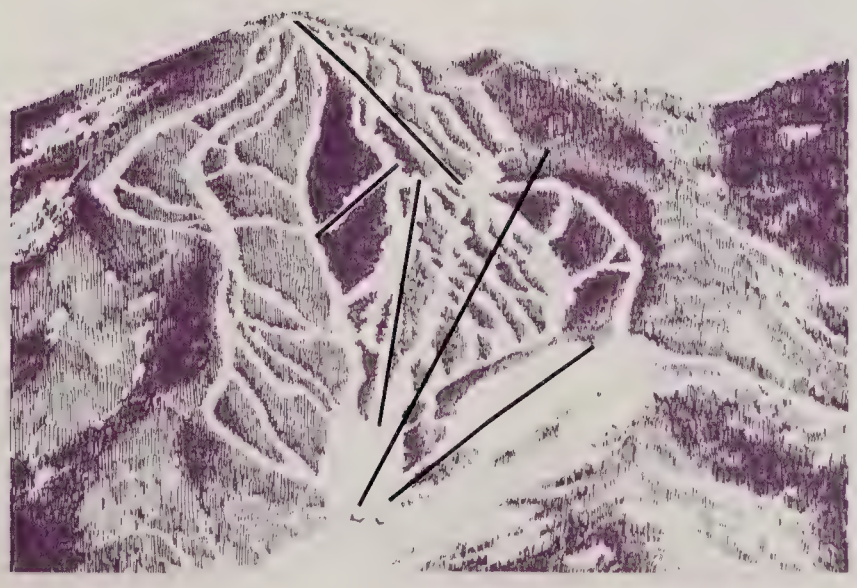
Christmas package (December 14-31): 4 days of skiing, 4 nights lodging with indoor swimming pool and jacuzzi, mountain shuttle and a family sleigh ride.

$139 adult **$95** child

or a condo for 6,

$164 adult **$120** child

Red Lodge Central Reservations can custom build packages for your family or group. Call 1-800-444-8977 (U.S. and Canada).



For More Information: Write Red Lodge Mountain, P.O. Box 750, Red Lodge, MT 59068, or call (406) 446-2610. For accommodations and recreation packages, call toll-free 1-800-444-8977, U.S. and Canada.

Showdown

Hidden in the Little Belt Mountains of the Northern Rockies is a ski area so friendly and pristine, you'll think it's your own private resort. That's why Montanans have loved Showdown for more than 50 years. Whatever your ability, you'll be welcomed and pleased by Showdown's 34 uncrowded runs covering 1,400 vertical feet of tree-lined trails and open slopes. And at Showdown, opportunities abound for adventure and variety. Bring your snowboard or rent one of ours, cross-country ski or snowmobile on groomed trails through the Lewis and Clark National Forest.

SHOWDOWN

Facilities: Full-service cafeteria; Hole-in-the-Wall Saloon; pro shop offering skis, ski repair and accessories; ski rental shop and nursery on the mountain. Certified ski school and professional ski patrol.

Location: U.S. Highway 89, 8 miles south of Neihart, 60 miles southeast of Great Falls and 30 miles north of White Sulphur Springs. Fly to Great Falls and rent a car.

Season: Late November through the first part of April. Open Wednesday through Sunday. Open every day during Christmas holidays, December 18-January 5 (except Christmas day), and open January 20 and February 17.

Average Annual Snowfall: 240 inches.

Base Elevation: 6,800 feet.

Top Elevation: 8,200 feet.

Vertical Drop: 1,400 feet.

Trails & Slopes: 34 runs on forest-lined trails, open slopes and glades in the Lewis and Clark National Forest. 35% beginner, 40% intermediate, 25% advanced.

Lifts: 1 triple chair; 1 double chair; 1 poma-lift; 1 rope tow.

Lift Capacity: 3,000 skiers per hour.

Lift Rates: Adult, $18; Juniors (6-12), $13; Seniors over 70, $13; children 5 and under ski FREE. Great Mid-Week Escape–Wednesdays and Thursdays–lift tickets are $15.

Ski Instruction: PSIA Ski School. Alpine and snowboard 2-hour class lessons, $12; 1-hour private lessons, $22. First-timers package for anyone 7 years and older, $23, includes 2-hour class lesson, all-day rental, and a poma ticket. SKI WEE for kids ages 3 through 6, $25/ half-day, $30/ full-day. SKI WEE includes a 2-hour kids' lesson or a 4-hour kids' lesson. Rental equipment and lift ticket are included if needed.

Rentals: Downhill package, $13/day. Snowboard package, $20/day. Demo/ performance skis, $20/day. Discount for 3 or more consecutive day rentals are available.

Events: Pepsi Sport Slalom Challenge every Saturday and Sunday; Regional Special Olympics, January 25; Bennett Motors Kids' Carnival, February 23; Fireman's Challenge, March 1; Showdown Snowboard Classic, March 8; Skolf Tournament, March 22; Belt Creek Headwater Relay, March 29; Corporate Cup, April 5.

Lodging Packages: A variety of lodging packages are available at hotels and bed and breakfasts in Neihart, White Sulphur Springs and Great Falls.

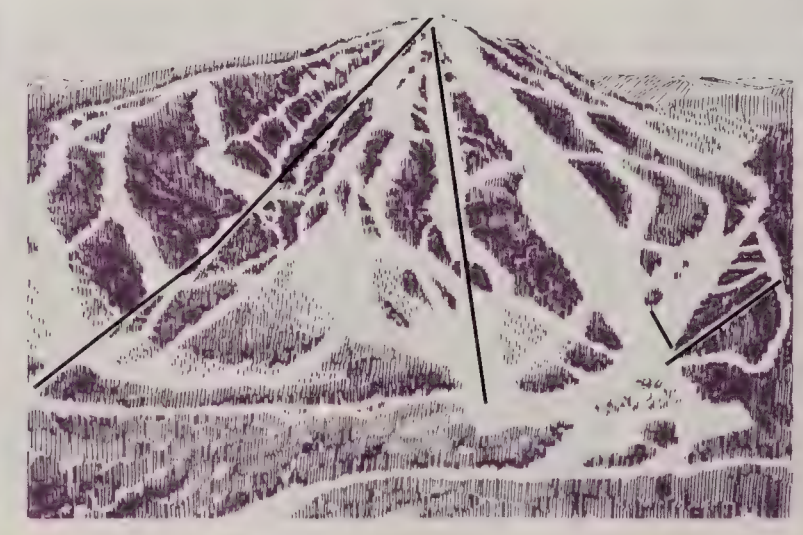
For More Information: Write Showdown Ski Area, Box 92, Neihart, MT 59465, or call (406) 236-5522.
24-hour snow phone (406) 771-1300.
Accommodations & reservations 1-800-433-0022.

3 days skiing/
3 nights lodging

$93

per person.

Based on Double Occupancy.
Other Packages Available.



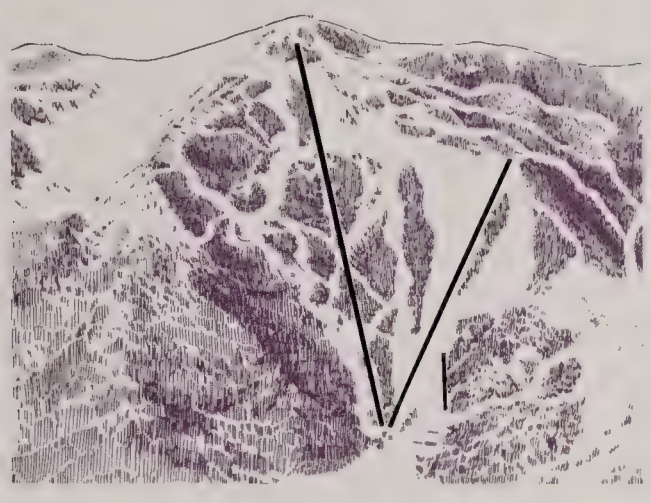
Great Divide

PHYLLIS LEFOHN

Skiing began on this great mountain back in 1941, with recent additions making Great Divide comfortable and convenient. Family fun prevails on the well-groomed, easy-skiing lower mountain, while vast backcountry-type chutes and bowls with major groomed trails on the upper mountain challenge all skill levels. New trails and bowls are added each year. The result is Montana's large-terrain, low-priced, fun skiing alternative...GREAT DIVIDE.

Facilities: Attractive, new, fully-carpeted base lodge with cafeteria and bar.

Location: 22 miles northwest of Helena just above the lively ghost town of Marysville. Take I-15, exit 200, then west on Hwy. 279 to Marysville Road.



Season: Early December to early April. Wednesday-Sunday and holidays. Night skiing Thursday-Saturday.

Average Annual Snowfall: 150 inches.

Base Elevation: 5,900 feet.

Top Elevation: 7,230 feet.

Vertical Drop: 1,330 feet.

Trails & Slopes: 39 designated trails and 2 open bowls covering 500 acres of ski-all terrain. 10% easiest, 40% more difficult, 40% most difficult, 10% extreme. Snowmaking enhances conditions.

Lifts: 2 double chairs; 1 handle tow.

Lift Rates: Adult, $16; child, $10. Pre-schoolers accompanied by an adult ski FREE. Discounted rates at noon and 2 p.m. each day. All-day tickets also valid for night skiing. Wednesdays and Thursdays are VALUE DAYS—with coupon, adults, $10; children, $6. Night-skiing-only tickets, $6. Handle tow is always FREE.

Ski Instruction: Group lessons, $10. Private, $15/hour. Free beginner lessons every day at 10 a.m. KIDSKI program daily for ages 3-8. PSIA member ski school.

Rentals: Ski package, $12/day; snowboards, $15/day.

For More Information: Write Great Divide, P.O. Box SKI, Marysville, MT 59640, or call (406) 449-3746.

Eagle Ski Montana

EAGLE MOUNT

Bridger Bowl • Red Lodge Mountain • Showdown
Adaptive ski program for children and adults.

Eagle Ski offers an adaptive ski program to disabled children and adults. Individuals are taught to downhill and/or cross-country ski with the use of specially adapted equipment and techniques. Lessons are taught on a one-to-one basis with two or more instructors when necessary.

While instruction technique is generalized per type of disability, each student's uniqueness is addressed. The program is equipped to deal with both the severely physically disabled person and the student who can follow simple instructions with limited motor skills. Involved in the program are persons with disabilities such as: cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, visual impairment, amputations, spinal cord injuries and developmental disabilities. Safety is of utmost importance with fun running a close second.

For More Information:
Eagle Ski-Bridger Bowl
6901 Goldenstein Lane
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 586-1781

Eagle Ski-Red Lodge Mountain
P.O. Box 20233
Billings, MT 59104
(406) 245-5422

Eagle Ski-Showdown
P.O. Box 2983
Great Falls, MT 59403
(406) 454-1449

Rocky Mountain Hot Springs Adventure

Montana skiing is a unique and exciting experience. If you're looking for a taste of the West, of open spaces and skiing as it was before high-speed quads and long lift lines, this western adventure is for you! Ski 3 of Montana's hidden gems—Discovery Basin, Lost Trail Powder Mountain and Maverick Mountain. Five full days of skiing! Relax and enjoy your aprés-ski time with a swim and soak at our natural mineral hot springs resorts, where you'll find comfortable lodging and great meals.

WILL BREWSTER

Lost Trail

Average Annual Snowfall: 300 inches.
Base Elevation: 6,600 feet.
Top Elevation: 7,800 feet.
Vertical Drop: 1,200 feet.
Adult Full Day: $15

Well known for reliable snow and great powder days, Lost Trail has a variety of runs for the whole family.

Lost Trail Hot Springs Resort

A year-round resort featuring an outdoor hot springs pool, indoor hot tub and sauna, restaurant, 3 lodges with large meeting rooms and cabins. Located 6 miles north of Lost Trail Powder Mountain.

Discovery Basin

Average Annual Snowfall: 200 inches.
Base Elevation: 6,850 feet.
Top Elevation: 8,150 feet.
Vertical Drop: 1,300 feet.
Adult Full Day: $18

New this season is the Limelight lift, adding 120 acres of advanced terrain, opening up the north slope of Rumsey Mountain.

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Located 32 miles east of Discovery Basin, Fairmont offers 2 Olympic size pools, soaking pools, a 350-ft. enclosed water slide, restaurant, lodge and convention center.

Maverick

Average Annual Snowfall: 200 inches.
Base Elevation: 7,100 feet.
Top Elevation: 9,220 feet.
Vertical Drop: 2,120 feet.
Adult Full Day: $16

Nestled in the spectacular Pioneer Mountains, Maverick is known for its true western hospitality and exceptional skiing!

Jackson Hot Springs

Off the beaten path in southwestern Montana, this Lodge features a large outdoor pool, cabins, restaurant and bar. Located 35 miles west of Maverick Mountain. Lodging also available 1 mile from ski area at Grasshopper Inn. Lovely setting with restaurant/bar.

5 Days Skiing/
6 Nights Lodging

$230

per person, double occupancy.

Custom designed individual or group packages upon request.
Meal plans available.
Contact Travel Masters.

For More Information:
Call Travel Masters
1-800-735-2644 nationwide
1-800-823-3273 in Montana, ask for operator 22.

SALOMON/TEAM RUSSELL

IF YOU SKI MONTANA, LET US GIVE YOU A LIFT.

Whether you're skiing Big Sky or Bridger, the Big Mountain or Snow Bowl, Northwest Airlines can take you to any of your favorite ski destinations. Every day Northwest can fly you to over 220 cities the world over. And with our WorldPerks Free Travel Program, you can earn a free trip after only 20,000 miles. So the next time you want to hit the slopes, let us give you a lift. For reservations and information, call your travel agent or Northwest at **1-800-225-2525.**

NORTHWEST AIRLINES

Downhill Ski Reference Chart

Ski Area	Avg. Snowfall	Vertical Drop	Base Elevation	Top Elevation	Lift Capacity/Hr.	Lifts*	Runs	% Beginner	% Intermediate	% Advanced	Adult Rates**	Children Rates**
Bear Paw Ski Bowl Havre (406) 265-8404	N/A	900	4,200	5,280	720	1D 1S	9	25	25	50	$11	$8
Beef Trail Butte (406) 494-5048	N/A	800	6,000	6,800	1,200	2S	8	30	60	10	$8	$4
Big Mountain Whitefish (406) 862-3511	300	2,220	4,800	7,000	11,684	1Q 2S 1D 4T	50	25	55	20	$29	$15
Big Sky Big Sky (406) 995-4211	400	3,030	6,970	10,000	11,100	1Q 2G 3D 2T	55	20	50	30	$34	$17
Bridger Bowl Bozeman (406) 587-2111	400	2,000	6,100	8,100	5,100	5D 1S	50	25	35	40	$22	$10
Discovery Basin Anaconda (406) 563-2184	200	1,300	6,850	8,150	3,400	3D 2S	30	33	33	33	$18	$9
Great Divide Marysville (406) 449-3746	150	1,330	5,900	7,230	2,000	2D 1S	43	10	40	40	$16	$10
Lost Trail Powder Mountain Darby (406) 821-3211	300	1,200	6,600	7,800	900	2D 2S	18	10	60	30	$15	$8
Marshall Ski Area Missoula (406) 258-6619	150	1,500	3,900	5,400	2,900	1T 3S	7	10	74	10	$15	$9.50
Maverick Mountain Dillon (406) 834-3454	140	2,120	7,100	9,220	700	1D 1S	12	20	40	40	$16	$9
Montana Snowbowl Missoula (406) 549-9777	300	2,600	5,000	7,600	2,600	2D 2S	32	20	40	40	$20	$9.75
Red Lodge Mountain Red Lodge (406) 446-2610	250	2,016	7,400	9,416	6,690	4D 1T 1S	30	15	60	25	$22	$10
Rocky Mountain Hi Choteau (406) 466-2422	300	995	6,400	7,400	1,000	1D 2S	25	20	50	30	$15	$11
Showdown Ski Area Neihart (406) 236-5522	240	1,400	6,800	8,200	3,000	1T 2S 1D	34	35	40	25	$18	$13
Turner Mountain Libby (406) 293-3832	200	2,165	3,835	6,000	1,000	1S	9	5	25	70	N/A	N/A

N/A
Information not available

***Location & Phone**
See the map on pages 20-21 of this guide for location. Please consult the ski area page listing for full address and additional phone numbers.

****Lifts**
Q – high-speed quad chair
G – high-speed detachable gondola
T – triple
D – double
S – surface

*****Rates**
Rates subject to change. Other rates may be available including junior, senior, group, night skiing and packages. Special restrictions may apply. Consult the ski area for more information.

DIANE ENSIGN

THERE'S A LOT OF MOUNTAIN OUT THERE

GO GET IT!

PROFESSIONAL SKI INSTRUCTORS OF AMERICA
NRM

Let a ski instructor be your guide to your next skiing experience

PROFESSIONAL SKI INSTRUCTORS OF AMERICA

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION

Lodging

Montana ski areas offer a full range of lodging on the mountains or nearby in lively western cities and towns. Menus that range from ranch-style to gourmet, special ski packages, airport and ski shuttle service, jacuzzi and sauna are just some of the extras you'll find at many of these lodging facilities near your favorite ski hill.

LODGING NEAR BIG MOUNTAIN

Aero Inn: Ideal for skiers looking for clean, comfortable and affordable accommodations. An easy drive to Big Mountain, plus numerous cross-country and snowmobile areas. Beautiful indoor pool, jacuzzi and sauna, free Continental breakfast, no charge for local calls. $32 per person/per night. Group rates, lift tickets and snowmobile packages available. Children 12 and under free. Write Aero Inn, 1830 Hwy. 93 South, Kalispell, MT 59901. Or call 1-800-843-6114 (U.S. and Canada).

Alpinglow Inn: Convenience and comfort in the ideal location next to the slopes and restaurants. The Alpinglow Inn features tasteful hotel rooms with television, phone, 1 queen and 2 twin beds. Enjoy 2 outdoor jacuzzis, a sauna and the glass-enclosed restaurant open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Children, 12 and under, stay FREE; one child per adult. American meal plan packages. 5 day/5 night packages as low as $355, double occupancy. Custom packages upon request. Call Big Mountain at (406) 862-3511, 1-800-858-5439 (U.S.), 1-800-637-7547 (Canada).

Bay Point Estates: Fully furnished condominiums with indoor pool, hot tubs, and complete ski packages including car. Family and group rates plus snowmobiling packages available. Conveniently situated between the resort town of Whitefish and Big Mountain ski resort. Rental car waiting for you upon arrival at Amtrak or airport. 6 night/5 day ski package, $315 per person including car (quad). Call or write for information or reservations: P.O. Box 35S, Whitefish, MT 59937; 1-800-327-2108 (U.S. and Canada).

Chalet Motel: Located 1 mile south of downtown Whitefish, just 8 miles from Big Mountain. Ski shuttle runs daily. Queen-size beds, color cable TV, large indoor pool, jacuzzi and sauna. Beautiful views of Big Mountain from your room. Restaurants, theaters and shopping directly across the street. $53 per person per night, double occupancy. Includes lift ticket and breakfast. Children under 12 stay free. Reservations: 6430 Hwy. 93 South, Whitefish, MT 59937; 1-800-462-3266.

Crestwood Resort: Accommodations for family and friends. Located in Whitefish at the base of Big Mountain, Crestwood Resort features fully furnished condominiums for up to 6 people. Fireplaces, spas, HBO/color cable TV, in-unit laundry facilities and membership to the Downtowner Health Club are all part of your stay. Cross-country ski on-site as a warm up to the many groomed trails in the area. Call (406) 862-7574 for rental or package rates.

Duck Inn Lodge: A charming new ski lodge just 8 miles from the lifts. Located in Whitefish on the river's edge. Ten beautiful rooms, all with fireplaces, large deep-soak tubs, cable TV, phones, queen-size beds and balconies. Redwood jacuzzi area. Continental breakfast included. Airport and Amtrak pickup. All-wheel drive Ford cars and Broncos for rent at the Inn. 3 day/3 night packages from $149 per person, double occupancy. Includes lift tickets. Reservations only 1-800-344-2377 (U.S. and Canada). Information (406) 862-3825.

Grouse Mountain Lodge: Located next door to Big Mountain ski resort, it's a natural for both downhill and cross-country skiing. This elegant 145-room lodge features an indoor pool, sauna, spas, dining, entertainment and conference facilities. Deluxe loft units with kitchenettes or jacuzzis are also available. Complimentary transportation is provided to Big Mountain, Amtrak and Glacier Park Airport. Rates: $50-$125. Reservations: (406) 862-3000 or 1-800-321-8822 (U.S. and Canada).

The Big Mountain: Plan your next vacation now. Call The Big Mountain Central Reservations office to reserve space in the Hibernation House, The Big Mountain Alpine Village Homes, Kandahar Lodge, Anapurna Properties, or Alpinglow Inn. Most properties include ski in/ski out access, or ski in with a short walk or shuttle to the lifts. The Big Mountain is one of the greatest ski vacation values! 5day/5 night ski packages start at $295, double occupancy. Call The Big Mountain Central Reservations office at 800-858-5439 or 406-862-3511.

Kandahar Lodge: Montana's premier mountain lodge, rustic yet elegant, is located in the village area at the base of Big Mountain. European-style dining at the Cafe Kandahar. Two spa areas with saunas, jacuzzis, phones, color cable TV, laundry, beautiful sunken lobby with huge rock fireplace, free shuttle service. Kids 12 and under stay FREE. Ski to the door. It's what a ski lodge should be. Write: Box 1659, Whitefish, MT 59937 or call (406) 862-6098.

Mountain Holiday Motel: Located 1 mile south of downtown Whitefish, just 8 miles from Big Mountain. Ski shuttle runs daily. Queen-size beds, color cable remote TV, large indoor pool, jacuzzi and sauna, guest laundry and hospitality room. Restaurants, theaters, shopping nearby. $53 per person/per night, double occupancy. Includes lift ticket and breakfast. Children under 12 stay free. Reservations: P.O. Box 302, Whitefish, MT 59937. Toll-free 1-800-543-8064.

The Outlaw Inn: Whether you are coming in from a tough day on the slopes, "bumming" around town, or tumbling through a wealth of other winter activities in the Flathead Valley, we welcome you! The Best Western Outlaw Inn is centrally located in Kalispell, offering luxury in every one of our 224 rooms. Jacuzzis, indoor pools, Hennessy's Restaurant and Nightclub, mini-casino, racquet sports and western hospitality throughout! Packages range from $49-$85 per person. Toll-free from anywhere you call! 1-800-247-9707 in Montana or 1-800-237-7445 in U.S. and Canada. Stay at the Best!

Vacation Farm Inc.: Located 45 minutes from the base of Big Mountain. Fully furnished 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, modern kitchen, formal dining area, family room with fireplace, color TV, VCR and video library. Large garage. 80 acres for cross-country skiing on ungroomed trails. $150 nightly for groups up to six. Reservations: 566 Creston Road, Kalispell, MT 59901 or call 1-800-882-8217 (U.S.) or (406) 756-8217 collect.

LODGING NEAR BIG SKY

Best Western Buck's T-4 Lodge: Big Sky's only mid-priced, full-service lodging facility. Our cozy lodge with its rustic log decor offers 39 deluxe guest rooms, 2 restaurants and lounges, game room, outdoor jacuzzis, snowmobile rental and skier shuttle service to the lifts. Genuine hospitality, superb food and accommodations are a Buck's T-4 trademark. Kids under 12 stay FREE! Reservations: P.O. Box 279, Big Sky, MT 59716, (406) 995-4111. Out-of-state 1-800-822-4484.

Big Sky Chalet Rentals: Indulge yourself....Come stay with us. We can accommodate the most intimate party to the largest ski group with a wide selection of condos and ski chalets priced from $90 per unit. Units are equipped with full kitchens, fireplaces, phones and cable TV. A heated swimming pool, hot tub, sauna and washer/dryer are available with some units. With one toll-free call, we can arrange all your travel plans, which include discounted airfares and car rental. For complete condo and travel arrangements, call 1-800-845-4428 or (406) 587-4107.

Golden Eagle Lodging: Ski-in/ski-out units on the slopes and Meadow Village Condominiums 6 miles from the slopes–all offering panoramic mountain views, furnished kitchens, stone fireplaces and most having access to pools, saunas and jacuzzis. Golden Eagle Lodge offers comfortable, newly redecorated rooms, restaurant and bar. Prices start at $115/night for a 1 bedroom condominium and $45/night in the lodge. P.O. Box 8, Big Sky, MT 59716, 1-800-548-4488, (406) 995-4800, FAX (406) 995-2447.

Huntley Lodge and the new Shoshone Condominium Hotel: The cornerstone of Big Sky Resort. These deluxe slopeside accommodations, as well as numerous condominiums, will make your ski vacation extra special. Swimming pools, jacuzzis, health club, gift shops, massage therapy. Ask about packages such as 2 nights/2 days of skiing, quad occupancy, first-class at the Huntley Lodge, Monday-Tuesday. Packages starts at $88.50 per person. Restrictions apply. Condominiums and other packages available. Call 1-800-548-4486 (U.S.), 1-800-824-7767 (Montana), (406) 995-4211 (local).

Mountain Lodge and Condominium Rentals: Big Sky's widest variety of lodging accommodations. From studio condominiums to luxury ski-in/ski-out condominiums with private jacuzzis, Mountain Lodge and Condominium Rentals offers the best accommodations and the lowest rates anywhere at Big Sky! For the "true penny saver" we invite you to stay at Big Sky's original economy lodge–The Mountain Lodge. Situated 800 yards from the lifts and offering an outdoor jacuzzi, TV/game lounge, ski waxing room and the Mountain Lodge Pub & Pizza. Write: P.O. Box 56, Big Sky, MT 59716, or call (406) 995-4560 or 1-800-831-3509.

Rainbow Ranch Bed & Breakfast: Located 5 miles south of Big Sky ski resort entrance. Just off Highway 191 nestled on the Gallatin River. Fourteen rooms, hot tub, large gathering room with fireplace, relaxed atmosphere. Ski, snowmobile or just relax. Groups welcomed. Call (406) 995-4132 or write Box 336, Big Sky, MT 59716.

Triple Creek Realty & Management: Big Sky's most beautiful condominiums for your ski vacation. From our exquisite ski-in/ski-out Arrowhead and Beaverhead condominiums with 3-4 bedrooms/3 1/2-4 baths and in-house jacuzzis to our completely redecorated, economical Stillwater studios, Triple Creek Realty guarantees you the very best accommodations from Mountain Village to Meadow Village at Big Sky. All of our condominiums feature in-house jacuzzis or recreation centers, cable TVs, microwave ovens, ski shuttle and much more. Write: P.O. Box 219, Big Sky, MT 59716 or call 1-800-548-4632 (Montana, U.S. and Canada).

LODGING NEAR BRIDGER BOWL

Best Western Grantree Inn: Located just off the Interstate, within a short 15-minute drive to Bridger Bowl and 45-minute drive to Big Sky ski resort. Offering true Montana hospitality with full-service dining, lounge and casino, indoor pool and jacuzzi, laundry facility plus 103 comfort-filled rooms. Special ski packages offered with discount coupons for Bridger Bowl. For reservations or information call 1-800-624-5865.

Bridger Bowl: Bridger Bowl offers a 12-month reservation service to all out-of-town skiers. On-mountain lodges, private homes, condominiums and bed & breakfasts are available for rental on a limited basis. Many are ski accessible from the mountain. Reservations and ski package programs are also available with many fine motels and bed & breakfast establishments in the town of Bozeman, only 16 miles from Bridger Bowl. Call toll-free 1-800-223-9609 (U.S. and Canada) or (406) 587-2111 .

Torch & Toes Bed & Breakfast: Just 20 minutes from Bridger Bowl. Three guest rooms with double occupancy and carriage house sleeps 4 and has a kitchen. Three blocks to Main Street with restaurants, shops and art galleries. Discount coupons for Bridger Bowl. Transportation from airport and to and from ski area may be arranged with City Taxi. Children under 10 stay free. Reservations: call (406) 586-7285.

LODGING NEAR DISCOVERY BASIN

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort: Just 32 miles east of Discovery Basin is Montana's favorite family resort. Affordable rates plus all the amenities. After a day on the slopes indulge in all that makes Fairmont so inviting–dining room, coffee shop, lounge with live entertainment, 2 olympic-size pools and 2 soaking pools all filled with natural hot springs water, plus a 350 ft. enclosed water slide. Also available are sleigh rides and dog sled rides. Reservations: Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, 1500 Fairmont Road, Anaconda, MT 59711. In Montana 1-800-332-3272. Outside Montana 1-800-443-2381.

SCOTT SPIKER

LODGING NEAR LOST TRAIL POWDER MOUNTAIN

Townhouse Inns of Hamiliton: Just 1 hour from the mountain. Opened in July 1989, offering beautifully appointed rooms with queen- and king-sized beds and remote color cable TV. Guest laundry, sauna, twirl jet spa and fitness room available. Complimentary coffee in lobby. Town Pump convenience store, year-round car wash and 4B's 24-hour restaurant next door fill your needs for fuel, groceries, sundries and meals. Rooms from $36-$50. Children ander 12 stay FREE. Write or phone for ski packages and reservations: 1115 North 1st, Hwy. 93, Hamiliton, MT 59840. Call collect (406) 363-6600.

LODGING NEAR MAVERICK MOUNTAIN

Townhouse Inns of Dillon: Just 30 minutes from Maverick Mountain ski area. Offers clean, comfortable guest rooms with queen-size beds and color cable TV. After a day of skiing you can relax in our indoor heated pool. Complimentary continental breakfast and coin-operated guest laundry are provided for your convenience. $45/person (4 people per room), children under 12 stay FREE. Write or phone for ski packages and reservations: P.O. Box 666, Dillon, MT 59725. Call collect (406) 683-6831.

LODGING NEAR RED LODGE MOUNTAIN

Best Western Lupine Inn: Located 6 miles from Red Lodge Mountain by car or shuttle bus. Walking distance to most downtown shops and restaurants. Packages available through Red Lodge Mountain. Indoor pool, jacuzzi, meeting room and ski wax room. Reservations: call (406) 446-1321 or Best Western 1-800-528-1234.

BILL BROCKETT/LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH

Creekside Cottages Condos: New luxury condos located on golf course in Red Lodge and just 15 minutes to Red Lodge Mountain. Studio or 2-bedroom units, queen-size beds, kitchenettes, fireplaces, decks, cable TV, large baths and completely furnished. Cross-country skiing nearby. $65 to $115/maximum of 8 people/2 night minimum. Reservations confirmed by advance deposit. Reservations: 2108 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102. Call (406) 656-0510.

Pitcher Guest House: A non-host, refurbished (circa 1903), 2-story home located near historic downtown Red Lodge. Accommodations include 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, completely furnished, lovely linens, full kitchen, laundry facilities, wood-burning stove, cable TV, phone, country decor and more. 6 miles from ski lift. Also available, **PITCHER TOWNHOUSE:** A newer, 2-story log condo with comparable accommodations–3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Also, **PITCHER GATE HOUSE:** 1 bedroom log cabin (perfect for honeymoon). Country French decor. Reservations confirmed by advance deposit, 3 nights minimum preferred. Reservations: Rt. 2, P.O. Box 3450, Red Lodge, MT 59068, (406) 446-2859.

Rock Creek Resort: Located 20 minutes from Red Lodge Mountain. Combines Beartooth Lodge, The Grizzly Condos and Old Piney Dell restaurant to create the perfect ski holiday. Gracious accommodations and the finest cuisine, indoor swimming, jacuzzis, laundry, shuttle service, ski packages, cross-country skiing, hiking. Price range $47 to $95. Four miles south of Red Lodge on U.S. Hwy 212. For reservations write: Route 2, Box 3500, Red Lodge, MT 59068 or call (406) 446-1111.

Super 8 Motel AAA: Red Lodge's newest motel, offering comfortable and super clean accommodations, 44 units, outdoor deck area with enclosed hot tub, free coffee and donuts, cable TV, HBO, ESPN, gameroom, guest laundry, non-smoking rooms. Low/high season range: 1 bed $29.88-$39.88; 2 beds $39.88-$49.88; group rates available; low season special. Ski packages made by Red Lodge Mountain. Reservations: 1223 South Broadway, Red Lodge, MT 59068, (406) 446-2288, toll free 1-800-800-8000.

Red Lodge Central Reservations: One call–does it all. Rarely does 1 number do so many things. With 1 call you can make arrangements for lodging, lift tickets, ski rentals, ski school...you name it! We custom build packages to suit your needs. And any bookings of 3 days or more made with lodging will get you discounted lift tickets. Some special packages will save you even more! Call 1-800-444-8977 in U.S. and Canada.

LODGING NEAR SHOWDOWN

Showdown: One call gets you the information on all lodging facilities near Showdown Ski area. With 1 call, we can give you the information and make reservation for your lodging and lift tickets. We can also supply information on rentals, ski school, day care and operation at the ski area. We can customize a package to fit your needs. Call 1-800-433-0022 in the U.S. and Canada.

Spa Hot Springs Hotel: After a great day on the slopes, top it off with a relaxing soak in 1 of our 2 natural hot spring pools. We offer special lodging/ski packages, 21 clean, comfortable rooms with cable TV and telephone. We are close to all services. Reservations: P.O. Box 370, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645, (406) 547-3366.

LODGING NEAR SNOWBOWL

4B's Inn: Nicest hot tub in Missoula. Ski packages beginning at $29 include ski ticket, lodging and choice of 4 ski areas. 4B's Restaurant next door. Entertainment and amenities nearby. For reservations and/or snow report call 1-800-272-9500 or write 3803 Brooks, Missoula, MT 59801.

Southgate Inn: 15 miles from lift, 3 blocks to mall, surrounded by restaurants, casinos and entertainment. Offers hot tub, exercise room, cable TV/HBO, Continental breakfast, courtesy van. Ski package includes lodging & lift: $34.50/per person/double occupancy, single queen; $36.50, double queens; family suite, sleeps 6, $27.50/per person. Reservations: 3530 Brooks Street, Missoula, MT 59801. Toll-free in Montana 1-800-533-2250, out-of-state 1-800-247-2616. Call collect from Canada.

Super 8 Motel: The Missoula Super 8 Motel is 20 minutes from Snowbowl ski area and 2 hours from Lost Trail ski area. Closest Missoula motel to Nightingale nordic ski area. Ski packages from $25 to $39.50 per person. Includes room, lift and Continental breakfast. Motel is close to several restaurants, theaters and Southgate Mall. For reservations and ski packages, call (406) 251-2255. Write Super 8 Motel, 3901 South Brooks, Missoula, MT 59801.

BED & BREAKFASTS

Bed & Breakfast Western Adventure can make reservations at selected and inspected B&Bs throughout Montana's major ski areas. Lounge around a beautiful log lodge with a jacuzzi or curl up in front of a cozy fireplace with a cup of something warm, good conversation and new friends. Free brochure. For B&B directory send $5 to P.O. Box 20972 WG, Billings, MT 59104-0972 or call (406) 259-7993.

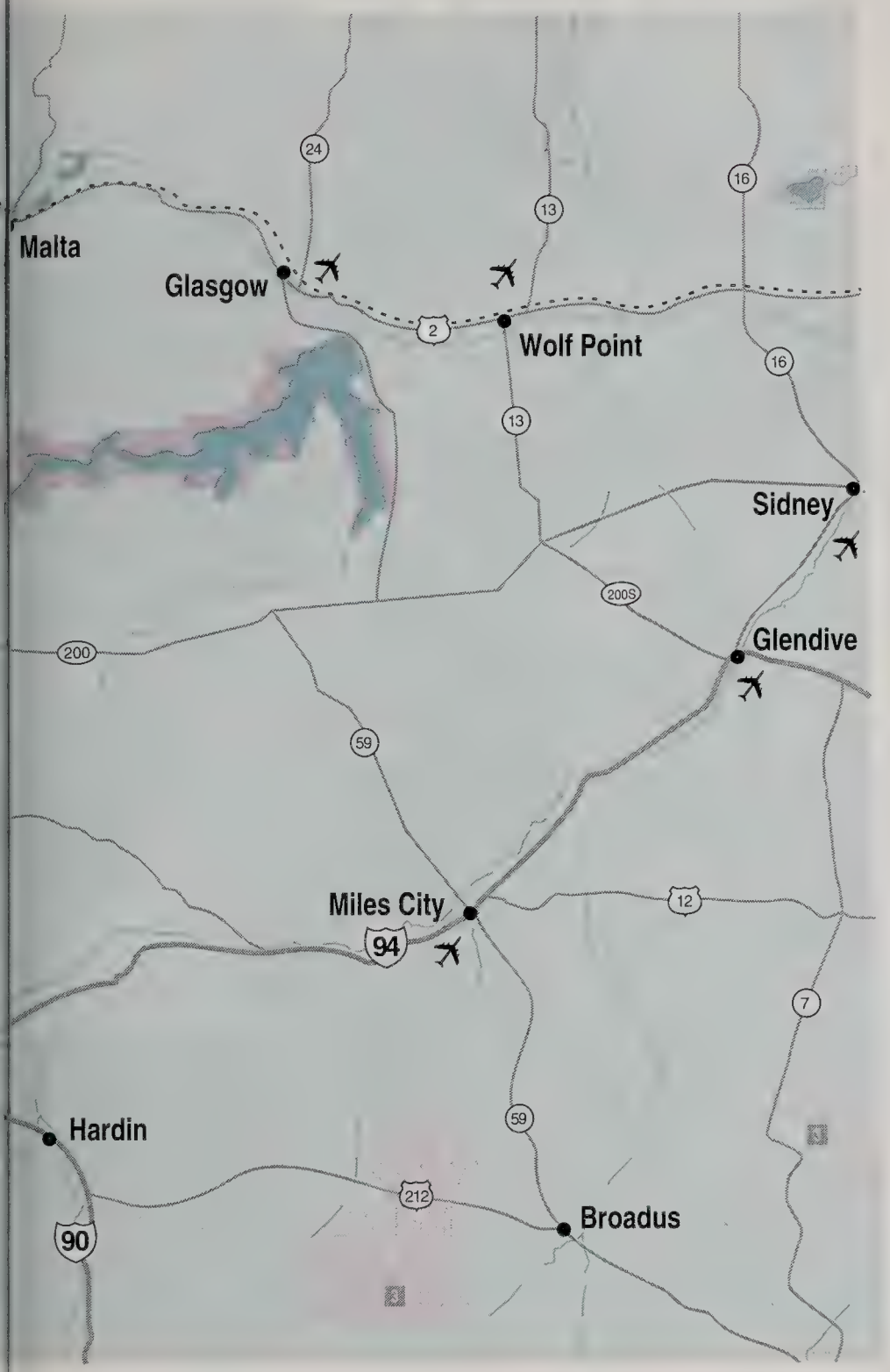
Montana Reference Map

National Forests

1. Beaverhead N.F.
2. Bitterroot N.F.
3. Custer N.F.
4. Deerlodge N.F.
5. Flathead N.F.
6. Gallatin N.F.
7. Helena N.F.
8. Kootenai N.F.
9. Lewis & Clark N.F.
10. Lolo N.F.

Downhill

- 2 Bear Paw Ski Bowl
- 1 Big Mountain
- 10 Big Sky Ski & Summer Resort
- 9 Bridger Bowl
- 6 Discovery Basin/Fairmont Hot Springs
- 4 Great Divide
- 7 Lost Trail Powder Mountain
- 8 Maverick Mountain
- 3 Montana Snowbowl
- 11 Red Lodge Mountain
- 5 Showdown Ski Area



Getting Here's A Breeze

Some resorts are just minutes from the airport or train station, others a short drive on scenic highways. The following carriers are among those who can get you to Montana snow:

AMTRAK 1-800-872-7245

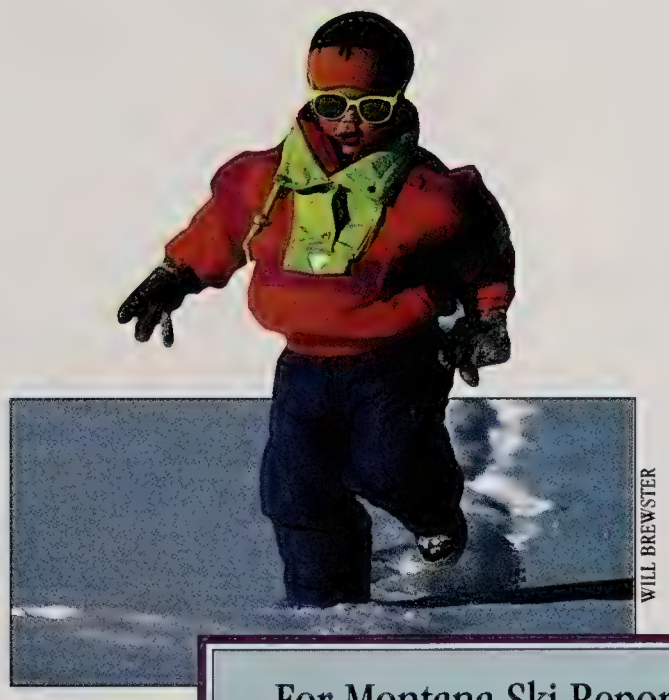
Continental Airlines 1-800-525-0280

Delta and The Delta Connection 1-800-221-1212

Horizon Air 1-800-547-9308

Northwest Airlines 1-800-225-2525

United Airlines 1-800-241-6522



WILL BREWSTER

For Montana Ski Reports and Travel Information, call

1-800-541-1447 (out-of-state)

(406) 444-2654 (in-state)

For Road Conditions, call

(406) 444-6339 (out-of-state)

1-800-332-6171 (in-state)

Travel Montana
Department of Commerce
Helena, MT 59620

Cross-Country/Touring

1. Big Mountain Nordic Center
4. Bohart Ranch
6. Cliff Lake Lodge
8. Covered Wagon Ranch
5. Golden Eagle Lodging
3. Garnet Ghost Town
2. Izaak Walton Inn
5. Lone Mountain Ranch
7. Wade Lake Resort
9. Yellowstone Alpen Guides
10. Yellowstone National Park
9. Yellowstone Tour & Travel

Cross-Country

Take the trails less traveled.

Here you can find backcountry valleys filled with untracked snow and dazzling sunshine–and have one all to yourself. Or ski past spectacular mountains that tower above snow-covered forests–and pause to watch a majestic bull elk. Or share the laughter of your children as they discover the fun of skinny skis–and race you to a fully catered snow picnic.

In Montana, cross-country is a way of life. With 2 national parks, 10 national forests, 12 wilderness areas and numerous lodges with private ski trails, there's plenty of room for everyone. And plenty of choices. Montana's cross-country ski resorts customize winter with specialties like guided wilderness tours, expertly groomed trails, professional instruction and comfortable accommodations ranging from cozy, private cabins to full-service lodges.

Cross-country in Montana. We have it all. And it's all yours.

TIM CHRISTIE

R. HAMILTON SMITH

◀ MIKE JAVORKA

Montana Cross-Country Ski Areas Association

The members of the Montana Cross-Country Ski Areas Association are dedicated to improving and enhancing the sport of cross-country skiing in Montana. They invite you to come and try their quality resorts from Glacier Park to Yellowstone. They know you'll be back. Some of these resorts are also members of the Cross-Country Ski Areas of America which promotes, enhances and develops the wonderful sport of cross-country skiing on a national scale. Look for these logos to find members of these associations.

CCSAA

Izaak Walton Inn

DAVID RASMUSSEN

DAVID RASMUSSEN

Cross-Country Skier *magazine called it the "coziest cross-country ski area in the Rockies." Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Izaak Walton Inn offers some of the finest groomed track, skating, backcountry and telemark skiing found in the northwest United States, with over 30 km of groomed trails. Trails 20 feet wide wind through beautiful Rocky Mountain scenery. Take a guided backcountry ski tour into Glacier National Park and marvel at nature's majestic and serene wonders. An alpine lodge constructed in 1939 by the Great Northern Railroad to house winter snow removal crews, the Inn has maintained the great heritage of the glory days of the railroad. Memorabilia, authentic furniture and our great log fireplace remind every guest of the great train era's mystique.*

Facilities: Relax in our Great Northern room with in-room sink and half-bath, an Empire Builder accommodation with full private bath or take a unique vacation in a charming Caboose. The Dining Car Restaurant serves a wide variety of menu favorites, plus daily specials. A Flagstop Bar, game room, Finnish sauna and laundry facilities help make your stay more enjoyable.

Location: At Essex, just off Highway 2, halfway between East and West Glacier in northwestern Montana. Fly Delta or Horizon Air to Kalispell and rent a car for a scenic drive to Essex. Or ride Amtrak right to our door.

Season: Late November through April 15. Glacier National Park backcountry tours from December 1 to April 15. Our spring skiing is excellent, as snowfall usually lasts into the middle of May.

Trails: Over 30 km of mechanically groomed trails, partially on Flathead National Forest, with set track and skating lane. Telemark hill. Lighted Starlight Trail for night skiing. Backcountry ski opportunities in Glacier National Park and the Great Bear Wilderness.

Guide Service: Our guided ski tours unlock the door to Glacier National Park's pristine winter splendor. Wildlife, spectacular scenery and experienced guides provide for a memorable day of skiing. Trips can be tailored to any ski level. Cost of an all-day group trip is $60-$80 per person, including lunch, transportation and guide service. Ski rental equipment available upon request.

Day Skier Services: A day-trail pass allows you to ski our entire trail system. Equipment rental packages available.

Vacation Packages: Stay 5 nights for only $390 in our Great Northern Room or $455 in an Empire Builder room (per person, based on double occupancy). Price includes lodging for 5 nights, 15 meals, daily trail passes, 1 ski lesson and 1 guided ski tour into Glacier National Park.

Events: Kick Out the Kinks USSA Sanctioned 5 and 10 km Nordic Ski Race, December 7; Spring Snow Rodeo and Race, March 28 & 29.

For Reservations: Reservations are recommended. When calling, please indicate if you are interested in a ski tour into Glacier Park, as space is limited.

For More Information: Write Izaak Walton Inn, P.O. Box 653-M, Essex, MT 59916, or call (406) 888-5700 for a brochure.

CCSAA

Lone Mountain Ranch

A winter vacation at Lone Mountain Ranch means cross-country skiing at its best! The spectacular mountain beauty surrounding the Ranch serves as a backdrop for the 75 km professionally groomed cross-country ski trail system. Attractive and comfortable cabins, full-service cross-country ski facilities, plentiful wildlife, a beautiful log dining lodge, dependable snow, top quality "made from scratch" meals and that "extra special" Montana hospitality combine to make Lone Mountain Ranch the cross-country skiing vacation of a lifetime. It's no wonder the Ranch draws so many guests back year after year!

BILL BROCKETT/LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH

LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH

Location: Big Sky, Montana—40 miles south of Bozeman, 20 miles northwest of Yellowstone National Park. Fly Northwest, Delta or Continental to Bozeman. Free airport transportation. Special air fares available.

Season: Ski from early December to mid-April.

Trails: 75 km of regularly groomed, tilled and tracked trails designed to accommodate all levels of ability. Groomed for both traditional skiing and skating. A portion of these trails are located on the Gallatin National Forest.

Guided Service: Naturalists guide all-day ski tours into the backcountry of Yellowstone. Skiing past steaming geyser basins and wintering herds of elk and bison is a truly unforgettable experience.

Nordic Ski Shop: Complete cross-country ski shop provides both retail and rental equipment. A wide selection of ski clothing, accessories, convenience items and gifts are available.

Ski Instruction: Professional instructors offer lessons for all levels of skiing.

Vacation Packages: Comfortable ranch-style accommodations house up to 60 guests in individual log cabins with private baths, electric heat and wood burning stoves or fireplaces. One-week package (7 nights) includes 3 complete meals per day, lodging, trail fees, airport transportation, a sleigh-ride dinner, gourmet on-the-trail buffet lunch, evening programs and outdoor hot tub at $850 per person, double occupancy. Reservations are required.

Day Skier Services: Day trail passes give you access to the entire trail system. Rental ski packages, nordic ski shop, ranch breakfasts, hearty skier buffet lunches, ranch dinners, saloon, lessons, guided ski tours and old-fashioned sleigh-ride dinners are all available to day visitors.

Sleigh-Ride Dinners: Step back into Montana history with an old-fashioned sleigh-ride dinner. A horse-drawn sleigh takes you through the winter woods to a beautiful log cabin where the aroma of homemade bread greets you at the door. A gourmet prime rib dinner cooked in a century-old wood cookstove and musical entertainment help complete a perfect winter evening. Reservations required.

Events: St. Nick's Nordic Festival, in early December, is a family fun day with games, relays, sleigh rides, free nordic instruction, use of ski trails and equipment.

For Reservations: It is recommended that you make your reservations as early as possible to assure your choice of dates and accommodations.

For More Information: Write Lone Mountain Ranch, P.O. Box 69, Big Sky, MT 59716 for a free brochure or phone (406) 995-4644 Ext. 120, FAX (406) 995-4670.

CCSAA

Yellowstone National Park

Winter may be the most magical season of all in Yellowstone. In winter, the park is transformed by snow into another world. Steam billows from the geyser basins to drift in eerie clouds through frosty air. Wildlife is abundant. The park's smaller streams and rivers are sheathed in ice and waterfalls form great arches of icicles. You haven't seen Yellowstone until you've seen Yellowstone in winter.

JEFF HENRY

TW RECREATIONAL SERVICES, INC.

Location: Yellowstone National Park located in southcentral Montana and the northwestern corner of Wyoming. Fly to Bozeman; bus service is available to Mammoth Hot Springs, 80 miles away.

Season: Mammoth Hot Springs, Dec. 20 through March 1; Old Faithful Snow Lodge, December 18 through March 9.

Average Annual Snowfall: 150 inches.

Average Park Elevation: 7,000 feet is the average elevation with mountain highs of 11,000 feet and lower areas at 5,800 feet. Mammoth Hot Springs is 6,300 feet above sea level.

Total Park Area: 3,400 square miles of protected parklands provide vistas of indescribable beauty–thermal features, wild animals, mountains, lakes, rivers and expansive views. "Have we got the country to cross!"

Trails: Groomed and tracked trails along with skied-in tracks. Miles and miles of backcountry trails.

Guide Service: All-day and half-day guide service available. Two person minimum.

Ski Instruction: 2-hour group lesson offered every morning and afternoon. Private lessons also available. Reservations recommended.

Vacation Packages: 7 days/6 nights, $210/person, double occupancy. Includes 6 nights, room with a bath, Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, 2 of those nights optional at Old Faithful Snow Lodge, based on availability; welcome wine and cheese plate on arrival; wake-up coffee or tea delivered to your door daily; morning newspaper (when available); snowcoach tour to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone or round-trip snowcoach to Old Faithful Snow Lodge; half-day of ice skating, guest's choice of day; discount coupons on ski rentals and guided ski tours (minimum of 4 people for tours). Package available at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, December 20 through March 1.

Rentals: Skis, boots, poles and gaiters for rent by half-day and full-day. Snowmobile rentals and snowcoach tours also.

Facilities: Mammoth Hot Springs is a vintage facility with all rooms housed in a 4-story wing and Aspen Lodge. Beautiful newly renovated dining room, fast-food facility and lounge. No phones or TVs. A great getaway spot.

For Reservations: Write TW Recreational Services, Inc., Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call (307) 344-7311. Authorized concessionaire of the National Park Service.

For More Information:
See your travel agent or write TW Recreational Services, Inc., Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or phone (307) 344-7311.

Yellowstone Tour & Travel

Add a day or more in Yellowstone Country to your ski vacation. Or make it your winter destination. Yellowstone in winter—an unbelievable wonderland. And there's no better way to enjoy it all than on a snowmobile. From the geysers and animals in Yellowstone to the deep powder snow of the surrounding national forest, it's a feast for your eyes and senses. Come. Enjoy.

YELLOWSTONE TOUR & TRAVEL

JEFF HENRY

Location: West Yellowstone is the west entrance to Yellowstone National Park, located on Montana's southern border near Wyoming and Idaho. Fly to Bozeman. Convenient daily bus service available for the 90-mile drive through beautiful Gallatin Canyon.

Season: Yellowstone National Park is open to snowmobile traffic (no automobiles allowed except for short northern route) from mid-December through early March. Snowmobiling in the surrounding national forests is available earlier and later.

Total Area: Snowmobiles are permitted only on groomed trails within Yellowstone's 3,400 square miles. In the national forests, riding is allowed both on and off trails on thousands of additional square miles.

Trails: Yellowstone National Park has more than 200 miles of well-marked and patrolled trails. An additional 250 miles outside of the park in Montana interconnect with hundreds of miles groomed by the state of Idaho.

Guide Service: Full-day at $130, limit of 10 to 15 snowmobiles per guide.

Instruction: Non-snowmobilers are encouraged to come! Machine operation is simple. Full instruction given to each person renting a snowmobile.

Vacation Packages: Full snowmobile packages, beginning day of your choice, include lodging, use of snowmobile, guide service, rental snowmobile clothing and 1 prime rib dinner. Packages vary in length from 4 nights/3 days to 7 nights/6 days. Overnight options away from Yellowstone are available. For reservations, contact your travel agent or Yellowstone Tour & Travel.

Lodging Only: Comfortable accommodations in West Yellowstone at Yellowstone Tour & Travel's Ambassador Quality Inn, Big Western Pine Motel and Three Bear Lodge. Fully carpeted rooms feature color/cable television, room phones and full baths. Each property has an indoor whirlpool. The Rustler's Roost Restaurant at the Big Western Pine Motel and the Three Bear Restaurant have excellent family-style dining and lounges.

Daily Snowmobile Rentals: Arctic Cat Panthers and Jags as well as Yamaha electric-start Ovations. Prowlers and Phazers are also available for additional fees. Each with electric handwarmers and luggage racks. Rental rate includes a full tank of fuel. Rates are $72 per day, single riding; $82 per day, double riding. Mid-week discount (except during holiday periods) offered to guests having a valid ski lift ticket from any Montana ski area. Daily round-trip bus service operates from Big Sky ski resort, 50 miles north. Snowmobile clothing is also available for rent. Outfit includes snowmobile suit, boots, gloves, helmet and stocking pullover face mask at $15 per day. All rates subject to 3% tax.

For More Information: Write Yellowstone Tour & Travel, P.O. Box 369,West Yellowstone, MT 59758, or call 1-800-221-1151.

Big Mountain Nordic Center

As part of Montana's largest alpine ski resort, Big Mountain offers quality trails for all members of the family. Consistent snow, exceptional values and beautiful mountain views keep guests coming back for more. Big Mountain at Whitefish is easy to get to via air, rail, car or sleigh. Fly Delta or Horizon Airlines into Kalispell's Glacier Park International Airport only 19 miles from the resort. Amtrak serves Whitefish from the east and west daily. Ground transfers are available through our reservation office. Over 270 comfortable lodging units are available adjacent to skiing, lounges, restaurants, day care and shopping. The whole family will enjoy the Whitefish experience which includes ice skating, sleigh-ride dinners and lots more. The friendly staff and helpful attitude make this a very special place.

For Reservations and Information:
Call 1-800-858-5439 U.S. and Canada or write Big Mountain, P.O. Box 1400, Whitefish, MT 59937.

CCSAA

Bohart Ranch Cross-Country Ski Center

Bohart Ranch, located 16 miles NE of Bozeman on Highway 86 in Bridger Canyon, adjacent to Bridger Bowl ski area, offers 30 km of groomed and tracked trails on nationally and internationally recognized cross-country ski terrain. Trails are groomed for both diagonal and skating techniques. Facilities include a Biathlon range for year-round training and competition. Services include rentals, lessons, snacks and warming cabin. Trails are open in summer for walking, running, mountain biking, horseback riding and summer biathlon which combines running and shooting. Bohart Ranch trails offer quality skiing for both the recreational and competitive skier. Our scenic trails in historic Bridger Canyon let our guests experience a bit of Old Montana.

For More Information:
Write Bohart Ranch Cross-Country Ski Center, 16621 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715, or call (406) 586-9070.

Cliff Lake Lodge

Cliff Lake Lodge, tucked away next to scenic Cliff Lake and bordering the Beaverhead National Forest, lies 4 miles off Highway 87, just 30 miles from Yellowstone National Park and 50 miles south of Ennis. The secluded lodge is part of the Neely Ranch and sits 6,300 feet in elevation below the craggy peaks of the Horn Mountains. In the solitude of winter, skiers have access to over 45 km of groomed trails from mid-December to the end of March, plus miles of magnificent backcountry skiing. Cliff Lake Lodge has excellent access to several scenic remote lakes, including Hidden and Elk lakes. The wildlife is abundant...skiers may get a glimpse of elk, moose, coyotes, otters and more, often in the same day! Birds thrive in the area and in late winter, bald and golden eagles, trumpeter swans, ducks and geese may be seen on the lakes. Fish for rainbow and cutthroat trout in Cliff Lake year-round. Accommodations include 3 comfortable guest rooms in the lodge with family-style meals provided or 1 modern cozy cabin, with private bath, kitchen and living room that sleeps 8 (meals optional). Packages available.

For More Information:
Write Cliff Lake Lodge, Box 573, Cameron, MT 59720, or call (406) 682-4982.

TOM J. ULRICH

Covered Wagon Ranch

The best cross-country skiing Yellowstone has to offer with the most reliable snow in the northern Rockies. Located a few miles from the quiet and spectacular northwest corner of Yellowstone Park. The Covered Wagon Ranch, accommodating guests since 1925, is situated in Montana's Gallatin Canyon, bordered by the Madison and Gallatin ranges. Most important, you'll enjoy the finest skiing in the west, both tracked and ski touring, through deep forested canyons, open meadows, rolling terrain and mountain slopes for telemarking–it's all available. Warm log cabins with private bath, central dining room for family-style meals and a recreation hall with fireplace blend well with the wildland setting. The ranch offers a rustic, yet comfortable environment. Downhill skiing at Big Sky area (23 miles). Avoid the hassle of the resort atmosphere and keep the opportunities offered at a great downhill ski area. Ranch transportation to Big Sky. Snow Coach trips into Yellowstone Park by arrangement. Ranch guests meet at Bozeman, Montana, airport. Full American Plan rates. Come join us.

For More Information:
Write Covered Wagon Ranch, 34035S Gallatin Road, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730, or call (406) 995-4237

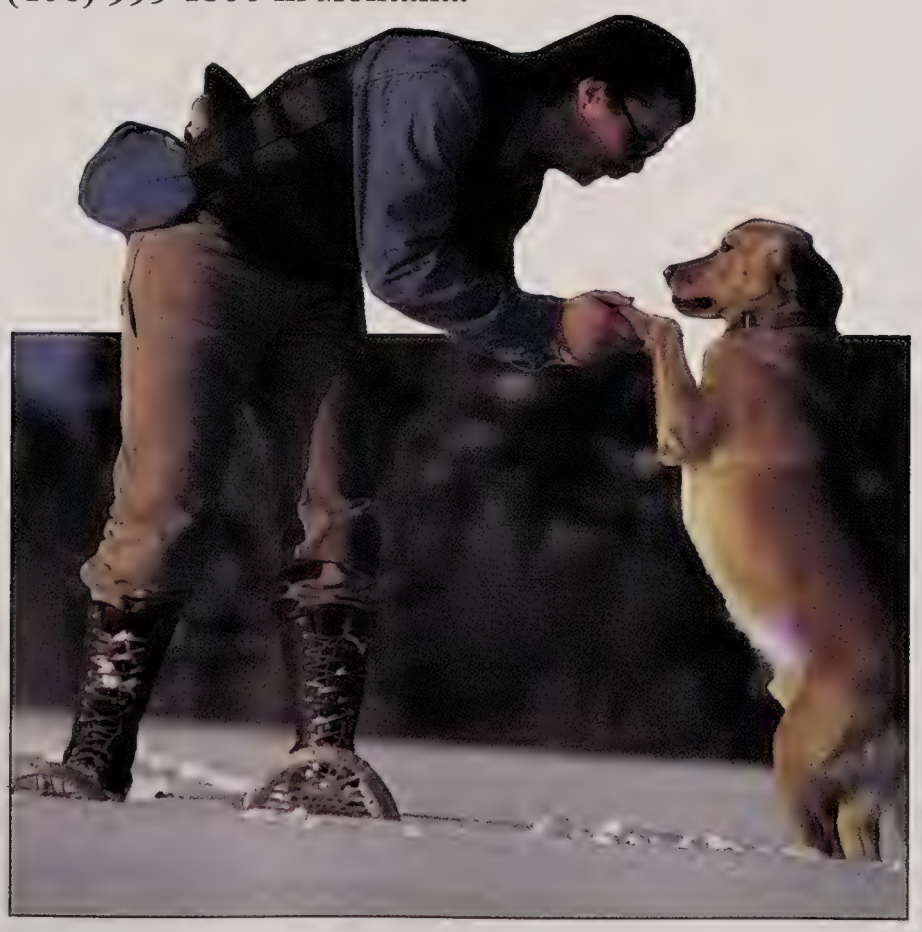
Golden Eagle Lodging at Big Sky

Located at Big Sky Ski and Summer Resort, Golden Eagle is 45 miles south of Bozeman and neighbor to Yellowstone National Park. Out your front door you will find access to 70 km of an extensive cross-country trail system.

Lone Mountain Guest Ranch, premier cross-country ski area of the northwest, offers a variety of terrain for beginner to expert. Or ski 55 miles of exhilarating downhill on 36 slopes over 1,000 acres. Our pinnacle peak, Lone Mountain, rises 11,166 feet with a vertical drop of 2,800 feet.

Golden Eagle offers the largest selection of luxury condominiums and homes in Big Sky. Conveniently located near the cross-country track system, slopes, dining, shops and entertainment, Golden Eagle condos have panoramic mountain views, furnished kitchens and stone fireplaces. Some have access to pools, saunas and jacuzzis. Golden Eagle Lodge offers comfortable and newly remodeled rooms, with a restaurant and bar on premises, the perfect choice for those on a budget. Prices start at $115/night for a 1-bedroom condo and $45/night in the lodge. Fly Delta, Northwest or Continental to Bozeman.

For More Information:
Write Golden Eagle, Box 8, Big Sky, MT 59716, or call 1-800-548-4488, (406) 995-4800 in Montana.



WILL BREWSTER

Wade Lake Resort

Wade Lake Resort offers a backcountry experience for those who wish to enjoy the diversity of winter wildlife, put some miles on their skis and use the solitude for creative and relaxing purposes.

Located on Wade Lake and a 1/2 mile from Cliff Lake, you are sheltered in a forested canyon. Designated a Montana Wildlife Viewing Site, Wade Lake, which stays partially ice-free in the winter, provides winter habitat for bald eagles, trumpeter swans, ducks, geese and river otters. Spring provides the opportunity to view loons as they stop for a 2-month visit. Share the trails only with the resident wildlife–moose, deer, coyote, bobcat, porcupine, ermine, snowshoe hares and squirrels, as well as the elusive pine marten.

Our professionally groomed and track-set trails take you along lake shores and riversides; through valleys, aspen groves and old growth fir forests; and over wide open rolling hills with spectacular views of tall peaks. Marked and groomed trails are designed for skiers of all ability levels. There are also endless backcountry opportunities in this area of the Beaverhead National Forest. Naturalist guided trips are available.

Accommodations are in 1 of 3 fully equipped cabins. Dine in the lodge or prepare your own meals. We provide a 6-mile shuttle from Highway 287 and the Madison River, or have us shuttle your gear while you ski in.

For More Information:
Write Wade Lake Resort,
Box 107, Cameron, MT 59720,
or call (406) 682-7560

Yellowstone Alpen Guides

Yellowstone National Park in winter is an experience never to be forgotten. The impatient crowds and harried pace of summer are gone. Large numbers of animals have slowly moved down from the high country to seek shelter in the thermal basins. Now is the time to see Yellowstone at its best!

Yellowstone Alpen Guides offer daily tours for the sightseer or skier aboard warm, comfortable, 10-passenger snow coaches. This little company offers that personalized touch so you get the most out of your trip into "nature's warm winter heart."

Daily from West Yellowstone to Old Faithful and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, offering scenic tours, guided ski tours, skier drop-offs, charters and out-of-the-park ski tours. Multi-day Yellowstone Wildlife Tours include 2 of days of snow coaching with emphasis on viewing Yellowstone's abundant wildlife, and a night at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge. We specialize in group and custom tours as well as tours for families and individuals.

For More Information: Write Yellowstone Alpen Guides, Box 518M, West Yellowstone, MT 59758, or call (406) 646-9591.

TOM J. ULRICH

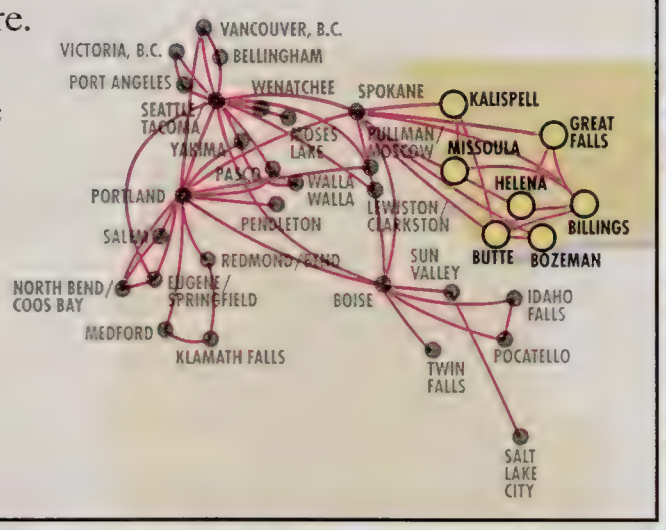
Montana State Bird.

Montana Is Our Territory.

Horizon Air has more flights to more cities in the Northwest than any other airline.

From our Spokane and Billings hubs, we offer the most flights throughout Montana along with convenient connections and low fares with Alaska Airlines and Northwest Airlines. Plus, we offer low-cost Montana vacation packages, including airfare.

So if you're bound for Montana or anywhere in the Northwest, fly there on Horizon Air. We know the territory. For reservations, see your Travel Agent or call 1-800-547-9308.



Horizon Air

Horizon Air operates Alaska Airlines (AS) flight numbers 2000-2999 and Northwest Airlines (NW) flight numbers 2000-2499

Winter Excitement National Forest Style

The national forests and grasslands of Montana stretch from prairies and badlands in eastern Montana through rolling hills and isolated ponderosa pine woodlands to rugged mountaintops and steep, timbered canyons in western Montana. When winter snows cover these 16.8 million acres of public lands, they become a winter wonderland.

PAUL DIX

Twelve downhill ski areas on national forest lands provide slopes for every talent. These winter sports areas have been developed in cooperation with private industry and are operated under national forest special-use permits.

In addition to spectacular downhill runs, there are vast and diverse landscapes for cross-country skiers and snowmobilers to enjoy. Cross-country skiers can follow over 600 miles (750 kilometers) of designated ski-touring trails of varying difficulty across timbered slopes, open meadows and ridgelines.

Here you'll find Dead Dog Loop, a 5.5 kilometer trail groomed daily in Gallatin National Forest near West Yellowstone; Laughing Water Creek, an easy, 7.2 kilometer journey in Kootenai National Forest south of Eureka; and Silver Crest, a popular system of trails in the Lewis and Clark National Forest south of Great Falls. And there are dozens more, including many trails that are adjacent to downhill ski areas or just minutes from town. Experienced skiers, with appropriate precautions, can explore on their own.

Snowmobilers can ride over 3,400 miles of designated, groomed trails, or they too can explore on their own. In some areas, wildlife winter ranges are closed to snowmobiling.

Winter recreationists should remember that conditions can turn an outing into a tragedy for the unprepared. Knowledge of the area, weather, route and limitations of your body and equipment—plus a little common sense—can ensure safe and enjoyable outings.

Take your pick of the special places available in Montana's national forests. They are yours to enjoy.

A brochure describing winter recreation opportunities and a good map are essential when you're planning your winter trip to Montana. Information on ski touring is available in the Ski Touring Trails brochure available from the USDA Forest Service, Northern Region. The Montana Snowmobiling Guide provides information on snowmobiling and is available from the USDA Forest Service, Northern Region or 1424 Ninth Ave., Helena, MT 59620, (800) 541-1447. *A Guide to Your Northern Region National Forests* will give you the location of all 10 national forests in Montana. This guide and maps of the individual national forests and winter recreation trails are available from the USDA Forest Service, Northern Region, or the individual national forests (see list of addresses).

USDA Forest Service
Northern Region
Federal Building
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, MT 59807
(406) 329-3511

Beaverhead National Forest
610 North Montana Street
Dillon, MT 59725
(406) 683-3900

Bitterroot National Forest
316 North Third Street
Hamilton, MT 59840
(406) 363-3131

Custer National Forest
2602 First Avenue North
P.O. Box 2556
Billings, MT 59103
(406) 657-6361

Deerlodge National Forest
Federal Building
P.O. Box 400
Butte, MT 59703
(406) 496-3400

Flathead National Forest
1935 Third Avenue East
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 755-5401

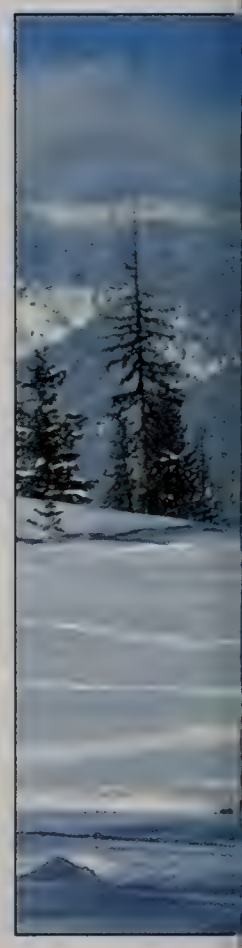
Gallatin National Forest
Federal Building
P.O. Box 130
Bozeman, MT 59771
(406) 587-6701

Helena National Forest
Federal Building, Room 334
301 South Park,
Drawer 10014
Helena, MT 59626
(406) 449-5201

Kootenai National Forest
506 Highway 2 West
Libby, MT 59923
(406) 293-6211

Lewis & Clark
National Forest
1101 15th Street North
P.O. Box 869
Great Falls, MT 59403
(406) 791-7700

Lolo National Forest
Building 24, Fort Missoula
Missoula, MT 59801
(406) 329-3750



Cabin Rentals

For those who seek the solitude of a true backcountry experience, the Forest Service has a few rustic cabins and lookouts for rent on a first-come, first-serve basis. Cabins are furnished with the bare basics (table, chairs, wood stove and bunks). Bedding is not furnished. Cooking utensils, electricity and piped-in water are generally not available. Expect to use outdoor privies. Forest Service personnel at the national forest in which the cabin is located will be able to tell you what you need to bring. For a *"Recreational Cabin & Lookout Directory,"* write or call the USDA Forest Service, Northern Region.

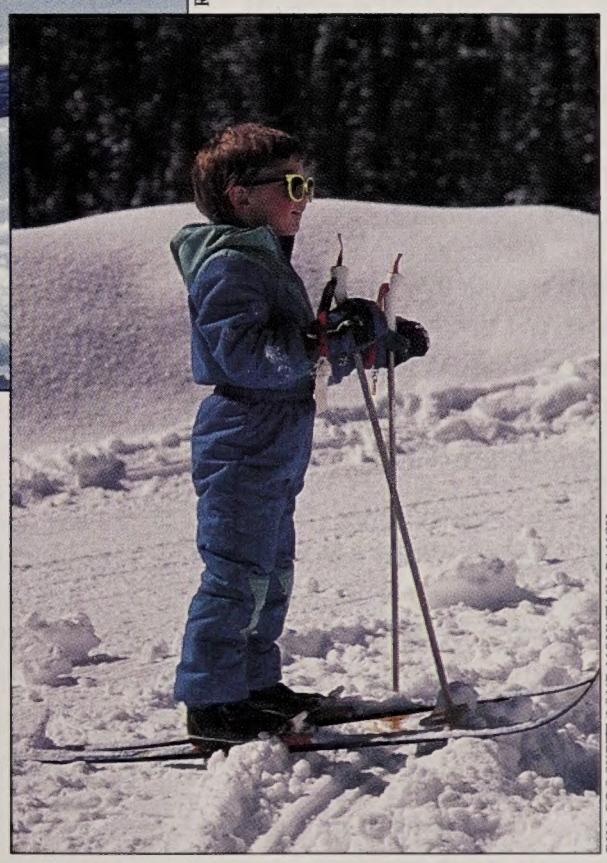
TOM J. ULRICH

ROGER WADE

Garnet Ghost Town

For a unique winter experience, the Garnet ghost town, east of Missoula in the Garnet Range, is a hidden delight for skiers. The Bureau of Land Management maintains an extensive trail system that combines the history of Montana's gold mining era with spectacular mountain views. Cabin rentals are available.

For Information on Skiing and Cabin Rentals:
Contact the Garnet Resource Area,
Bureau of Land Management,
3255 Fort Missoula Road, Missoula, MT 59801
(406) 329-3914.



BILL BROCKETT/LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH

National Parks–Winter Magic in Yellowstone and Glacier

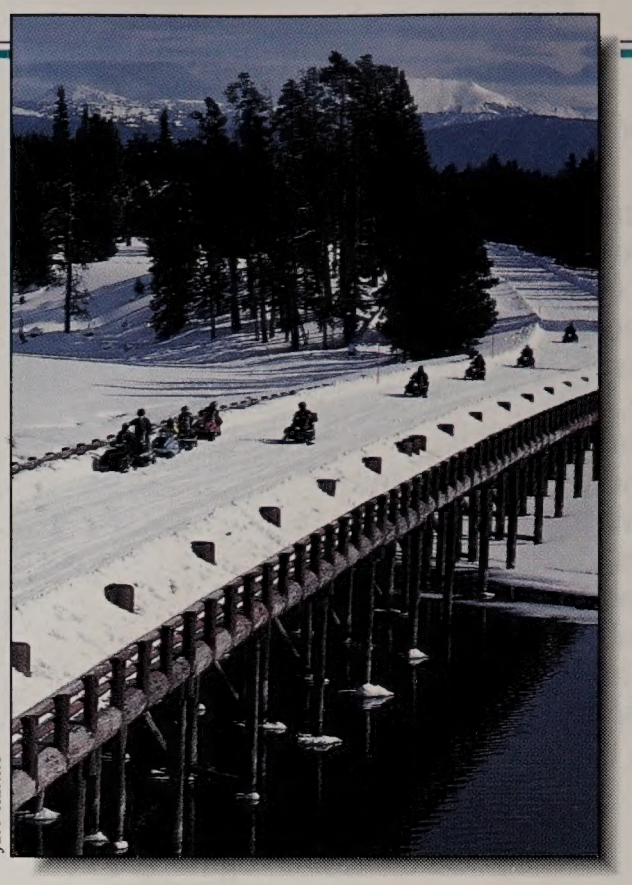
Winter transforms Montana's 2 national parks into unforgettable lands of beauty and peace.

Two million pristine acres, abundant wildlife, steaming geyser basins, miles of ski trails and backcountry touring make Yellowstone National Park an ideal cross-country ski destination. Skiers can explore on their own or arrange shuttle service to various trailheads.

But that's not all. Snow coach tours and snowmobile rentals, available from West Yellowstone and Mammoth Hot Springs, provide unique opportunities for enjoying our nation's first national park.

A hush settles over the high country as winter transforms the peaks of Glacier National Park into a crown of brilliant white light. Elk and deer move down to their winter range while mountain goats keep their lofty perch above. More than a dozen ski trails and a million acres of exquisite alpine splendor await the winter visitor to Glacier. Guided tours are available.

For maps and information about cross-country skiing and winter activities in the national parks, contact the Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190, 307-344-7381, or Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936, 406-888-5441.



JEFF HENRY

Winter Wildlife Watching

Whether driving to a ski area, cross-country skiing or sipping hot chocolate indoors by a window, keep your eyes open for Montana's watchable wildlife. Deep snows in the high-country drive many animals to lower elevations, and closer to civilization. That's why winter is the best season to see bighorn sheep, coyotes, deer, moose and Rocky Mountain elk.

Scan for elk herds on windswept hillsides. Spy a moose in a grove of willows. Watch for the white heads of bald eagles in riverside trees. Telephone poles spanning prairies create perches for rough-legged hawks and golden eagles. Ice-free lakes and rivers offer a watery refuge for ducks, Canada geese and swans.

Look, too, for tracks. You may spot the prints of a bounding snowshoe hare followed by lynx tracks. Both animals race lightly across snow on furry paws that act as natural "snowshoes." Taking along a field guide to animal tracks will help you decipher wildlife clues etched in snow.

And please–give wildlife room to live. Birds and animals must conserve energy to survive the chilling months. Binoculars and a camera with a long lens will bring you close without disturbing wildlife.

Montana Wildlife Viewing Sites

As you travel in Montana, watch for binoculars symbol signs along the highways. They are locator signs for wildlife viewing sites. Certain sites are best visited in the winter, when you may see bighorn sheep, elk or eagles. More than 100 watchable wildlife sites are described in the *Montana Wildlife Viewing Guide*, available at bookstores or by calling **Falcon Press** at **1-800-582-2665.**

TOM J. ULRICH

For more information on Montana's Watchable Wildlife: Contact the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 1420 East Sixth Ave., Helena, MT 59620, (406) 444-2535.

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Miles from here,
in the mountains
there is no sound
but snowfall.

Patricia Goedicke,
Montana poet

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